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THE JERUSALEM POST

VOLUME LXII, NUMBER 18768

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1994 • TISHREI 11, 5754 • II RABIA 10, 1415

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IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

● Kiryat Arba residents have always felt this government is against them. What is new, Heri Keilon reports, is their feeling that someone is spying on and betraying them. Section B.

● Australians consider complaining ("whingeing") as culturally offensive as kangaroo shooting. Netty C. Gross meets some of those who have moved from down under to up here and discovers perhaps the most contented of Western olim. Magazine.

● In the Ukraine, historical logic should suggest that Jewish life has withered. Instead, reports Abraham Rabinovich, it's in full bloom. Magazine.

● Oliver Stone rolls into town. Steve Rodan meets the director of 'Natural Born Killers.' Stone's latest romp through American violence. Time Out.

Edri charged by military court

Jerusalem Post Staff and Item

LT. Oren Edri, suspected of involvement with a new Jewish terrorist underground, was formally charged on Wednesday in Jaffa Military Court with, among other things, illegally holding and transferring arms, revealing classified information, and conduct unbecoming an officer.

According to the indictment, Edri received four blocks of plastic explosives from Lt. Kobi Pinto, who has also been arrested, and passed one of them on to Ya'acov Ben-David, who was arrested but was released on Tuesday.

He allegedly took two other blocks of explosives from his unit and gave them to Elyashiv Keller, 23, of Kiryat Arba, who was arrested last week. Edri allegedly trained Keller in the use of these explosives.

The military prosecutor also said Edri had told General Security Service investigators that he believed Keller was linked to the murder of three Palestinians near the village of Turkamliya in September 1992. Levy said Edri had quoted Keller as saying "that was an almost perfect operation."

Edri is also charged with giving another suspect, Ido Elba, information orally and in writing about the location of arms warehouses on two IDF bases in the South.

After the hearing, Edri was handed over to the Military Police. His remand hearing is scheduled for Sunday.

After the hearing, Edri's lawyer, Zion Amir, said the charges are indeed serious, but far less serious than what had been speculated about in the press.

The prosecutor, Lt. Col. Avi Levy, said, "Every detail in the indictment is based on what the accused told the General Security Service investigator."

He added that much of the evidence came in the form of a statement in the accused's own handwriting, and that two of the prosecution witnesses mentioned in Edri's statement - apparently Ben-David and Keller - had given independent verification of the things Edri had described.

But Amir insisted that the indictment was based on notes taken by the GSS investigators, and that (Continued on Page 2)

Clinton prepares public for US invasion of Haiti

News agencies

WASHINGTON - Against a chorus of opposition, President Bill Clinton built his case yesterday for an American invasion of Haiti to expel a military regime that stole power and stands accused of 3,000 political murders. Every sign pointed to an imminent invasion.

Seventeen American warships ominously shadowed Haiti's coast, and two troop-laden aircraft carriers were on the way, expected to be on station by the weekend.

As the warships moved within striking distance of the Haitian coast, locals from all sides of the political spectrum anxiously waited for Clinton to make a nationwide television address late last night on his plans for an invasion of the Caribbean nation.

World reactions Page 8

Life in Haiti yesterday was as normal as could be expected in a country bracing itself for the arrival of dozens of American warships and thousands of US troops.

One warship already in the area appeared just off the Haitian coast yesterday, and, in recent days, sent a helicopter to buzz the capital, Port-au-Prince.

The United States has said it will invade Haiti unless the military leaders who seized power in a bloody coup almost three years ago cede power to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the man they deposed.

The US administration yesterday called 1,600 reserve troops to active military duty for 90 days to support the threatened action in areas ranging from airlifts to military police and medical duties.

Defense Secretary William Per-



US President Bill Clinton makes a point yesterday to National Security Adviser Tony Lake as they walk to the Oval Office discussing his impending address on Haiti. (Reuters)

ry said Clinton had authorized the move and that more reservists might be called later to support combat or civil affairs operations in Haiti.

He told reporters that the 1,600 Army, Air Force and Coast Guard reservists do not include combat troops.

Defense officials have said privately that as many as 20,000 American troops might be used in the invasion and its aftermath. But due to defense cuts, some skilled support personnel are now drawn from the reserves in emergencies.

Perry told a Pentagon news con-

ference that a large number of reservists - civilians who practice their military skills on a part-time basis - had already volunteered to fill the 1,600 needed positions, but that some others might have to be activated "involuntarily."

Defense Department spokesman Dennis Boxx said the call-up, which was authorized on a request from General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was for 90 days.

Americans overwhelmingly oppose an invasion, according to polls, and there's widespread opposition in Congress among Re-

publicans and Democrats alike.

Former secretary of state James Baker said the United States should not invade, "because the national interest doesn't require that we put American lives at risk."

But administration officials said that after five months of threatening an invasion, the nation's credibility is at stake.

The administration said the United States is determined to halt brutal human rights abuses, avoid a massive influx of refugees and defend democracy in the Caribbean.

Polls: Gap closing between Labor, Likud

SARAH HONIG

A DAHAF poll conducted this week predicts that, if elections were held now, the Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu would narrowly beat Labor's Yitzhak Rabin for prime minister by 2 percent.

These findings follow a Gallup poll also published this week, which shows Rabin ahead of Netanyahu by only 1 percent.

The Dahaf poll, in which some 500 persons were questioned, was conducted by Dr. Mina Zemach early in the week. It gives Rabin 39 percent of the vote and 41 percent to Netanyahu.

The similar findings by the Gallup poll indicate an even closer race with a razor-edge advantage for Rabin, who is given 41 percent as against 40 percent for Netanyahu. The margin of error in each poll is plus or minus 3 percent.

The Dahaf poll also asked which party respondents would opt for if Knesset elections were held now. The Likud received 27 percent and Labor 26 percent.

On the Labor side of the political arena, Meretz received 7 percent and the Arab parties 3 percent. On the Likud side Tsomet, Moledet, and the National Religious Party each got 4 percent, while a combined Aguda-Degel Hatorah list netted 2 percent. The poll thus awards the left 36 percent and the right 41 percent.

Shas, which at different times has been aligned with both large parties, received 3 percent.

Of the remainder polled, 18 percent were undecided and 2 percent defined themselves as abstaining.

CPI jumps 1.1 percent

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Consumer Price Index jumped 1.1 percent in August, marking the sixth consecutive month with inflation of one percent or more.

Central Bureau of Statistics spokesman David Neuman reported that inflation is now estimated to be running at 14.5% annually.

Fruit and vegetable prices jumped ahead of housing prices, contributing 0.4 percentage points to the index while housing contributed 0.3%. Together, they made up nearly two-thirds of the index's rise.

Housing prices moderated their upward course last month, after accelerating in previous months and heating up overall inflation. According to the bureau's bi-monthly housing price survey, during June and July prices rose 1.1% compared to 3.2% in the previous two months. This was the lowest increase registered since March 1992.

Apartment prices rose 1.5% last month, while rents rose a more moderate 0.9%, pushing overall housing prices up 1.4%. Since August 1993, housing prices have shot up 28%.

The cost of a standard basket of goods and services for the average urban family rose to NIS 6,070, including housing, compared with NIS 6,005 in July. Excluding housing, the basket cost NIS 4,650, compared with NIS 4,610.

Full report: Page 6

Baseball season cut short

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Major league baseball players and owners called the day that baseball died one of the saddest ever, but said they would stick to their guns in the dispute that ended the season prematurely on Wednesday.

Perhaps whistling past the graveyard, most said the game is strong enough to rise again after cancellation of the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

Acting commissioner Bud Selig, owner of the Milwaukee Brewers, announced the decision to end the season on the 34th day of a play-

ers' strike. "There's an incredible amount of sadness," he said in Milwaukee.

The sticking point in contract negotiations was the owners' demand for a cap on salaries. The players said they could never accept a cap.

Gene Orza, assistant legal counsel for the players, said: "They have played the World Series through two World Wars, an earthquake, and the Depression and now it gets blown off over the salary cap."

Full story: Page 11

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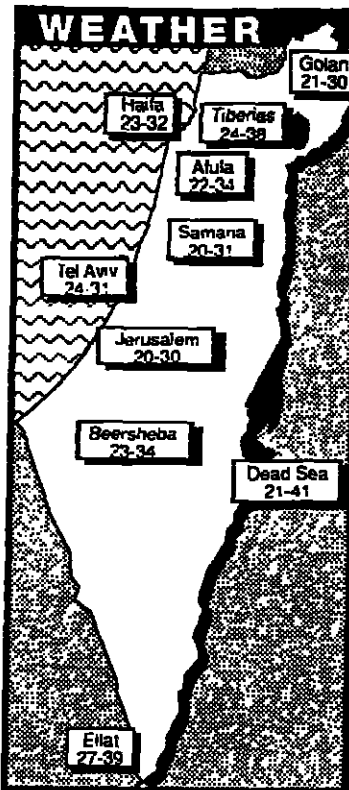
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Forecast: Slightly cooler.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	11	15	rain
Berlin	11	17	rain
Buenos Aires	11	16	rain
Calcutta	25	32	rain
Chicago	12	18	rain
Copenhagen	11	16	rain
Frankfurt	11	16	rain
Geneva	11	16	rain
Helsinki	11	16	rain
Hong Kong	25	32	rain
London	11	16	rain
Los Angeles	11	16	rain
Madrid	11	16	rain
Moscow	11	16	rain
New York	11	16	rain
Paris	11	16	rain
Rome	11	16	rain
Sydney	11	16	rain
Tokyo	11	16	rain
Toronto	11	16	rain
Vancouver	11	16	rain

ENGAGEMENT

Monique and Chucky Zaroni and Judy and Bob Goldman are happy to announce the engagement of Carine and Paul. The wedding will take place in the spring.

Kibbutz Elrom goes on strike

MEMBERS of Kibbutz Elrom on the Golan Heights have declared a general strike, and say they will close all kibbutz operations beginning today in order to spend every day with the hunger strikers encamped at Gama.



Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara (right) chats with Issa Darwish, Damascus's envoy to Cairo, before the start of the Arab League meeting of foreign ministers over the weekend in Cairo.

Arab League wants Jerusalem restored to Palestinian sovereignty

CAIRO (Reuters) - Arab foreign ministers, rejecting Israeli moves recognizing a special Jordanian religious role in Jerusalem, said yesterday the holy city must be restored to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of an independent Palestinian state.

The Arab League, in a final statement after a meeting of foreign ministers and envoys of 22 countries, said:

"Based on the fact that Holy Jerusalem is a Palestinian Arab city that has a sublime status to the Arab and Islamic worlds, the League Council stresses the extreme importance of Jerusalem

and the need to restore its Arab and Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the independent Palestinian state."

Jerusalem, it said, is "an integral part of the Arab and Palestinian land occupied in 1967."

Delegates said the future of Jerusalem dominated the regular bi-annual meeting in Cairo.

The Washington Declaration signed by Israel and Jordan in Washington in July recognized special religious rights for Jordan in the city.

The agreement said: "Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Moslem shrines in Jerusalem ...

When negotiations on the permanent status take place, Israel will give priority to the Jordanian historic role in these shrines."

Under the Israeli-PLO peace agreement, the final status of Jerusalem is to be subject to negotiation, but not for at least two more years.

The league demanded Arab states step up efforts with the United Nations, the United States, and Russia - cosponsors of the three-year Middle East peace process - to press Israel not to change the status quo of Jerusalem.

It asked Arab states to seek a

No Arab leader has accepted peace - top intelligence man

STEVE RODAN

A SENIOR IDF intelligence officer says that despite the current Middle East peace negotiations not one Arab leader has accepted the concept of peace with Israel.

"Not one of the rulers, not [PLO leader Yasser] Arafat, not [Syrian President Hafez] Assad has accepted peace," said Brig-Gen. Ya'acov Ami Dror, head of the IDF military intelligence research division. "In the interests of their peoples, they have accepted some symbols of peace."

Dror's assessment, broadcast in an interview on IDF Radio on Wednesday, contrasted with the optimistic view of his superior, Maj-Gen. Uri Saguy, IDF military intelligence chief. In interviews he has given over the past week, Saguy has said he is hopeful that a peace agreement with Syria can be signed soon.

Unlike Saguy, Dror is a life-long intelligence officer, the last officer who served in the 1973 Yom Kippur War and still in the division. He recalled his warning to his superior hours before the war of an impending Arab attack. That warning was ignored.

Dror also warned that unless the economies of Middle East countries improve, their regimes could be toppled by Islamic fundamentalists. If one of these countries - which he did not name - fell, the entire peace process would be endangered, he said.

He also discussed the proposed withdrawal from the Golan Heights. He noted the military buildup of Syria and of Egypt, which has a powerful air force.

Dror said that in another 20 years oil prices will sharply increase and the Arab world will have "the West by the throat." At that point, the Arab states, including those that made peace with Israel, might find that a truncated Israel, bereft of its strategic depth, might make an easy target for conquest.

Emergency funds for PA police

OSLO (AP) - Norwegian and UN officials agreed yesterday to send an emergency grant of \$12 million to the Palestinian Police, which has run out of money for salaries.

Norwegian officials said the payment aims at covering costs for more than 6,000 policemen from June through October. The money would arrive "within weeks," the officials said.

"If one cannot finance the police, the whole security net for reconstruction will break down," said Terje Roed Larsen, a UN coordinator for the territories.

EDRI

(Continued from Page 1)

nothing had been written or signed by Edri. He also demanded to know what deals had been made with the prosecution witnesses.

Levy said that Pinto gave the explosive blocks to Edri, but had asked Edri to return them. Edri allegedly gave one to Ben-David, who apparently used it to destroy the wall of an Arab house, Levy said. There is no information about what happened to the other three, Levy said, "but I am prepared to assume, to his credit, that he did return them."

He said that Edri had obtained the two other explosive blocks and detonators after Keller had asked him for weapons.

Edri's father, Yitzhak Edri, said that given the heavy publicity the case has received, it was obvious his son would have to be charged with something.

Referring to reports that his son had admitted some of the allegations, the elder Edri said, "If he confessed, then we all know under what conditions he confessed."

He said that in the two weeks since his son's arrest, his son had been unable to receive packages, and thus had been wearing the same shirt the entire time. He added, however, that his son's general condition had improved.

Meanwhile, court protocols from the Haifa Magistrate's and District courts dealing with the cases of two other suspects, Eitan and Yehoyada Kahalani, were made public Wednesday, following a petition made by an Itim reporter in Haifa.

According to the protocols, the judges involved have apparently not been presented with any evidence that the two are linked to serious crimes being attributed to the new underground, including the murder of three Palestinians near Turkania in 1992, the murder of an Arab taxi driver in Jerusalem in July, and a plot to attack

Orient House, the PLO's Jerusalem headquarters.

According to the protocols, the two are alleged to have conspired with the others to organize for the purpose of carrying out attacks against Arabs, and to illegally obtain weapons.

According to Itim, reporters were granted access to the protocols, even though the suspects' lawyers had not yet been given the information.

The Haifa District Court on Wednesday acceded to a request by the GSS and prevented the brothers from meeting with their lawyers until today, when another remand hearing is scheduled.

Their lawyers - MK David Meiz, Yossi Akiya, and Shlomo Ribelsky - had appealed the remand set earlier this week by the Haifa Magistrate's Court, which had ordered the brothers held until September 21.

The two suspects were brought into court separately wearing handcuffs and leg restraints. Their lawyers saw them for the first time as they entered the court, but could not speak with them.

Their mother, Ilana Kahalani, was also forbidden to speak with her sons, but was allowed to pass them packages containing food for the pre-Yom Kippur meal and a change of clothes.

Evelyn Gordon adds:

On Tuesday, the Ministerial Committee on GSS investigations received a report on the investigation of the alleged right-wing terror group and issued a statement saying it is convinced the rumors about mistreatment of the suspects were false.

Eran Shendar, head of the Justice Ministry's division for investigating policemen, compiled the report after meeting with Edri, his GSS investigators, and his prison guards.

The committee consists of Justice Minister David Liba'i and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

Halhoul man dies after being shot by settlers

JON IMMANUEL

HATEM Abu Rayan, a 30-year-old father of three from Halhoul near Hebron, died in hospital Wednesday night, five days after being shot by settlers who said they had been stoned while driving through the village, Palestinian sources said.

Police confirmed the death. The settlers, identified as Alex Kogan, 23, and his aunt, Ilana Podolsky, 36, were brought before the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Sunday and released on bail after the judge accepted their plea of self-defense.

Palestinian sources said Abu Rayan was standing outside his house when he was shot, which was not on the route normally traveled by settlers from Hebron and Kiryat Arba. The settlers had been driving on the Sa'ir-Halhoul road, which leads only to the settlement of Metzad, but is not frequently traveled by settlers.

Israeli and Palestinian sources said last night that, after the conclusion of Yom Kippur, loudspeakers called settlers to a demonstration in Kiryat Arba to protest against the arrests of several Kiryat Arba and Hebron residents last week on suspicion of planning attacks against Arabs.

Sheikh Jamil Hammami, a lead-


ing Hamas activist in Jerusalem, was arrested and released on NIS 5,000 bail by the Ramallah Military Court on Tuesday for possession of inciteful material and is to appear in court Sunday, An-Najah reported. Hammami heads the Islamic Culture and Science committee.

The Palestinian radio station, The Voice of Palestine, apologized Wednesday for going off the air yesterday. The reason was that the radio station receives telecommunication services from Bezek, which shut down for Yom Kippur.

In Hebron meanwhile, a Palestinian was taken to hospital yesterday after Israeli settlers allegedly surrounded and attacked him using martial arts until he collapsed, Reuters reported.

Three settlers isolated Jawdi Atrash from scores of Palestinians in the marketplace and attacked him in a martial arts demonstration, witnesses said. Other settlers stood protecting them with automatic weapons.

Atrash, 25, was rushed to hospital with suspected broken limbs, the witnesses said.



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- From the prayer of the Cohen Gadol, Yom Kippur Service

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30th Anniversary of the Hov Halakosh Movement: 9:30 p.m. Simhat Beit Hashoeva featuring Michael Streicher and the children's choir

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Mayor of Jerusalem, the Honorable Mr. Ehud Olmert

Guest Speaker, Rabbi Uri Lupoliansky

Rabbi Marvin Flier, Dean, Simon Wiesenthal Center, Los Angeles

The Philanthropist, Mr. Eli Reichmann

Guest of Honor, Dr. Jacques Wajsbeyn, Paris

Dinner Chairman, Rabbi Meri Forush

You are invited to the Annual Dinner of the Atereth Israel Yeshiva on Thursday, September 22, 1994

in the Succah of the Renaissance Hotel, 6 Wolfson St., Jerusalem

Reception: 6:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv: 7:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

Algerian Moslem militants behead 13 civilians

TUNIS (Reuters) - Moslem militants have beheaded 13 Algerian civilians this week, 12 of them rounded up in a night raid on a village to be taken to their deaths, the independent Algerian newspaper *El Watan* said yesterday.

The daily, well-informed on security issues, said another civilian, a 20-year-old woman, was beheaded after being kidnapped from her home in Medea, south of Algiers. "Her headless body was found a few hundred metres from her house," the newspaper said.

It said about a dozen Islamists armed with knives and rifles kidnapped 12 inhabitants of Sidi Bakhti village in Tiaret district, some 220 km southwest of Algiers during Tuesday night.

"The 12 were savagely mutilated, then decapitated... The 12 bodies, drained of their blood, were found the morning after by security forces," *El Watan* said.

Three people in Algeria's eastern Oum El Bouaghi area had also been "mutilated and had their throats slit," the paper added, without giving any source for its report.

El Watan commented: "At the moment when the state presidency has announced the release of leaders of the banned FIS (Islamic Salvation Front)... peaceful citizens have been beheaded by a group of terrorists."

Algeria has been shaken by violence blamed by officials on Moslem fundamentalists since the FIS was thwarted of victory in a general election in which it had taken a huge lead nearly three years ago.

The authorities scrapped the poll in January 1992. In the violence since then, more than 10,000 people have been killed.

Earlier this week, in an attempt to halt the bloodshed, President Liamine Zerroual announced that three senior FIS men had been freed from jail and the banned party's president, Abassi Madani, and his deputy, Ali Belhadj, had been transferred from prison to house arrest.

In a statement published yesterday, former Algerian prime minister Redha Malek said concessions to fundamentalists risked destabilizing the country.

Chinese deputy mayor nabbed in sex raid

BEIJING (AP) - The vice mayor of a southern Chinese city has been arrested along with two other city officials in a crackdown on rampant prostitution.

The arrests were the latest in a recent campaign against prostitution, gambling and drugs ordered by Communist Party leaders that has resulted in thousands of arrests and scores of executions.

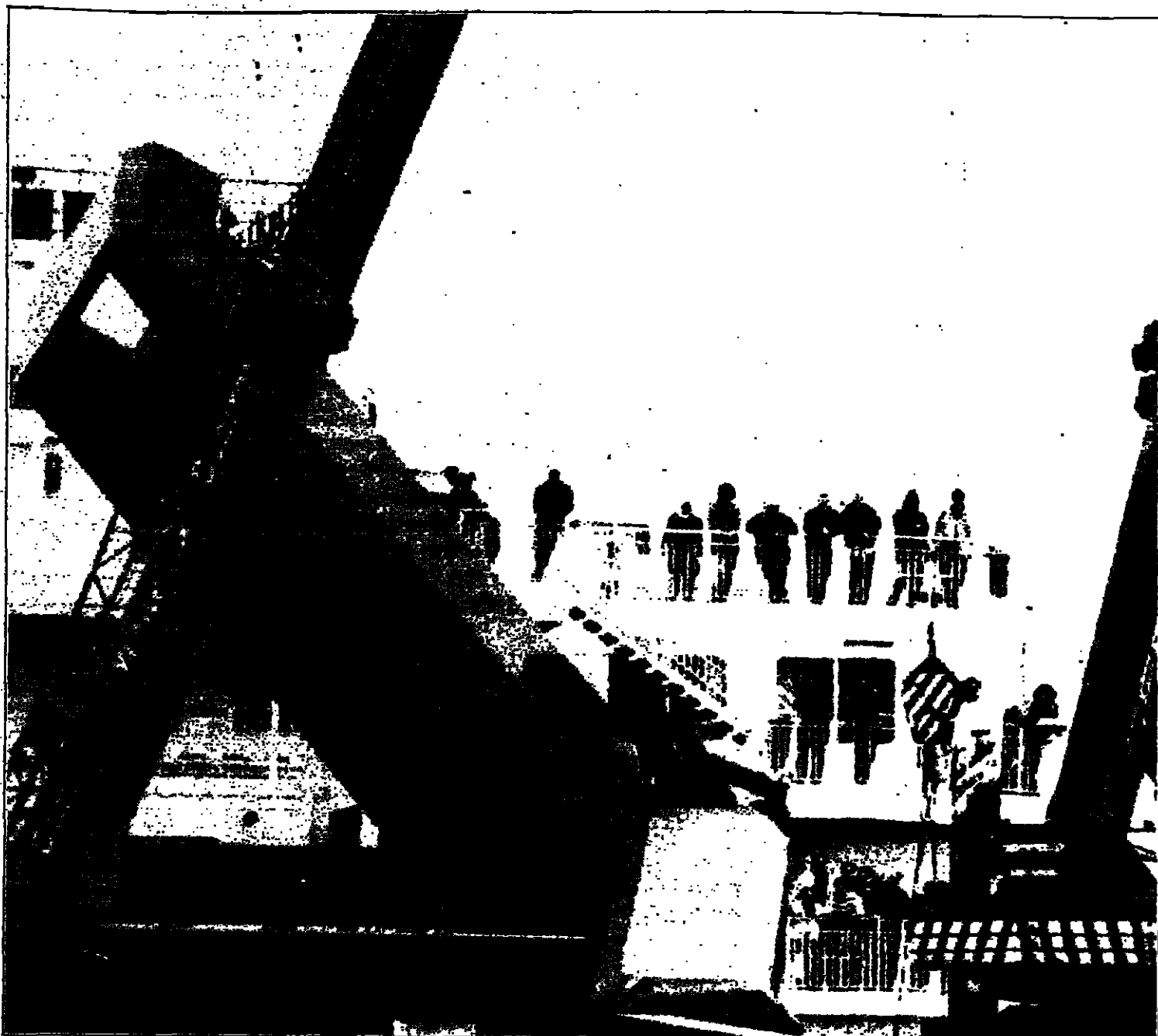
The official newspaper *Yangcheng Wanbao* reported that the vice mayor of Beifu, in the southern province of Guangxi, was arrested along with two other city officials during a business trip to Shenzhen, just across the border from Hong Kong.

The three were caught soliciting prostitutes on the street and taking them into their hotel rooms, and one was caught taking a bath with his female companion, said the report, seen yesterday in Beijing.

In a separate report, the newspaper said a dozen Communist Party officials had been caught with prostitutes in the city of Zhanjiang, which like Shenzhen is in Guangdong province.

The reports did not explain what penalties the officials would face. However, in many recent cases, arrests have led to prison sentences or, for drug offenses, execution.

Earlier reports said a month-long crackdown on drugs, prostitution and gambling had led to 60,000 arrests in Guangdong, one of China's fastest growing provinces.



Passengers on the cross-Channel ferry 'Prins Filip' watch in Ramsgate harbor, England, on Wednesday as cranes lift part of the gangway which collapsed as foot passengers were boarding the ship. Six persons were killed and seven seriously injured when the gangway fell from a height of over 10 meters just before the ferry was to sail for Ostend, Belgium. (AP)

Bosnian Serbs to defy US ultimatum

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Bosnian Serbs, aware of growing divisions among international peacemakers, said yesterday they would defy a US deadline for acceptance of a peace plan despite a threat to arm their Moslem foes.

Momcilo Krajisnik, a hardline member of the Bosnian Serb leadership, said the major-power peace proposal would be ignored until it was redrafted to take account of their objections.

The United States will try to lift the UN arms embargo on the Moslem-led Bosnian government if the Serbs do not agree to the plan by October 15.

Bosnian Serb rejection of the proposal to take territory from them and give it to a federation of Moslems and Croats has left them isolated and under a military blockade by their former Yugoslav allies.

But the Serbs appeared emboldened to maintain their rejection by a clear rift over the arms embargo between the US government and its main allies.

"We will not give up our demand for the correction of the map because it divides the Bosnian Serb republic into three parts and gives 20 towns, eight mines and all rivers to the enemy," Krajisnik told a Yugoslav radio station that is used by the Bosnian Serbs to transmit their views.

A peace-plan "contact group" comprising the United States, Russia, Britain, France and Germany wants to divide Bosnia equally and would require the Serbs to withdraw from 20 percent of the former Yugoslav republic that they now control.

The United States believes lifting the arms embargo on the Moslems would redress the military imbalance that has favored Serbs during 29 months of fighting.

Russia, Britain and France fear it would provoke renewed war and have said they would withdraw their forces from the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia.

Opponents of arming the Moslems have drawn grim scenarios of

the outcome. UNPROFOR's French commander, General Bertrand de Lapresle, warned yesterday that NATO might have to send combat troops to provide cover for the peacekeepers' withdrawal.

Diplomats said Washington was now unlikely to get its way in the UN Security Council. Nor did they expect enough support in Congress to force a unilateral lifting of the arms embargo on US President Bill Clinton.

The open divisions among the international allies have given the Bosnian Serbs little reason to hurry to compromise.

There has been no clear sign from the contact group about where they will head once the October 15 deadline runs out.

Hopes are pinned on the possi-

bility that Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's military blockade of the Bosnian Serbs might temper their defiance.

He stopped supplies of fuel and military equipment last month after denouncing Bosnian Serb politicians as war criminals and describing the peace plan as fair.

But diplomats in Belgrade stressed Milosevic's quarrel was with the independently minded politicians like Krajisnik and that he would never risk leaving the Bosnian Serbs in the lurch militarily.

Bo Felinas, Swedish head of an international mission to monitor the Yugoslav-Bosnian border and ensure the military blockade is respected, met Yugoslav officials yesterday to work out details of the operation.

Peacekeepers foil Liberia coup

MONROVIA (AP) - Rebel soldiers led by a feared commander from the defeated government army seized the presidential mansion yesterday, but an African intervention force said it foiled their coup attempt.

A fax sent from the United States claimed a successful coup for the insurgent leader, Gen. Charles Juleue, who apparently has formed yet another faction in the tortured 5-year-old civil war.

"The Liberian New Horizons has taken over the affairs of government... to stop the madness in our country," it said.

But it appeared their influence did not extend beyond the gates of the executive mansion, an Israeli-built fortress backing onto the Atlantic Ocean. A gunboat of the eight-nation African army in Monrovia patrolled the waters off the mansion yesterday and its tanks surrounded the landward side.

Sources in the intervention force said about 100 rebel soldiers were holed up in the mansion, including Juleue. Telephones at the mansion rang unanswered.

The fighting came just three days after the three main warring factions signed a UN-approved agreement.

The accord caused an uproar in Monrovia, with a rebel coalition and a national peace conference objecting because it would replace a civilian-dominated interim government with a council of the warlords.

Heavy gunfire erupted about 4 a.m. at Barclay Training Center,

the army barracks near the mansion that houses the government executive offices.

The Nigerian-led multinational army said it had control of the situation and was negotiating with remaining attackers, who belonged to the army of assassinated dictator Samuel Doe.

"A few elements are still holed up in the Executive Mansion... but it has been cordoned off by our troops and quite a number of the soldiers and officers who participated in the shooting have surrendered," said Brig. Gen. A. S. Mukhtar, chief of staff of the African army.

He said elements of the Armed Forces of Liberia had moved in on the mansion, the radio station and communications center about 2 a.m. But they were only able to take the mansion.

National radio began broadcasting hours late with a message from the African army commander, Maj. Gen. John Inlienger, urging dissidents to surrender.

He said the dissidents were led by Juleue, a ruthless commander who fled the country after Charles Taylor, a former Doe aide, invaded from the Ivory Coast on Dec. 24, 1989. Doe was killed by a breakaway rebel faction in 1990.

Taylor's popular rebellion to oust Doe's dictatorship ballooned into a tribal war that the United Nations estimates has killed more than 150,000 people.

Two of every three of Liberia's 2.3 million people are either displaced inside the country or refugees in other nations.

Belfast violence escalates

BELFAST (Reuters) - Street violence in hardline Protestant neighborhoods and threats by armed extremist groups against police are clouding the political horizon in Belfast since the IRA ceasefire.

Protestants, nervous of the political repercussions of the ceasefire called two weeks ago by the Irish Republican Army, are accusing the police of moving from Catholic areas of the capital to crack down on their areas.

Protestants fear the truce is only a tactic and not a true end to the IRA's 25-year war to oust British forces from the province.

They fear the British government will reward the IRA and its goal of a united Ireland by "selling out" Northern Ireland's Protestant majority. Protestants say police are harassing their young men, repeatedly questioning the same people, breaking into houses without warning and sometimes ransacking them without reason.

"It's nothing to do with the IRA ceasefire. This (harassment) has been going on for five or six years, and periodically it gets unbearable," said Belfast city councillor Fred Cobain.

Local Protestants say that over the years police have left the Catholic neighborhoods that most strongly support the IRA - and where police are considered a target - and moved instead to the "loyalist" areas. There, police had been protected as a symbol of the British crown to which Protestants swear loyalty.

But police say there is a good reason for what they are doing, even if politicians say the way they do it is unacceptable. They fear an upsurge in extremist activity and in the gangsterism that supports the so-called loyalist groups.

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Telephone: 315666, Telex: 36121, Fax: 389527, CIRCULATION - 315610, Fax: 389017, ADVERTISING - 315608, 315637-40, Fax: 388408, TEL. AVI: 5 Rector Haanagar, P.O. Box 28398 (61257) Telephone: 6390333, Fax: 6390277, HAIFA: 19 Mousa, Hadar
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Running for cover

ALMOST any foreign policy initiative the present US administration comes up with sparks a knee-jerk barrage of criticism. Long scorned for inactivity in Bosnia, Washington then announces its intention to end the defiance of world opinion and the gross human rights abuses of the generals in Haiti - and is greeted with equal scorn. Moreover, some friends of the US who urged it to act in Bosnia have been running for cover at the merest hint that they should help restore democracy in Haiti.

To be sure, there were some critics of George Bush's liberation of Kuwait - in democracies there must always be criticism - but one of the more cynical comments that gained currency was that if Kuwait produced oranges instead of oil, there would have been no Gulf war. In other words, the cynics said, the war was a crass commercial enterprise. The criticism ignored the fact that serious economic interests can be as valid a reason for the use of military power as any other. However, no one can argue that vital US raw materials are being threatened in Haiti.

That's just the point, argue the new critics. There are no vital US interests at stake, so why bother invading? President Clinton's moral arguments are being swept aside with the same cynicism that Gulf oil interests were swept aside by critics of the Gulf war. The critics and the public would do well to pay some attention to what the president is saying about American moral values. It is hard to know exactly what they want the US to be in the modern world.

Clinton has been criticized for inactivity in many spheres overseas - most recently in Yugoslavia and in Rwanda. It appears the American public is reluctant to risk having its soldiers do the very jobs for which they have been trained. Ironically, when Clinton was elected, both the military and its supporters expressed fears that Clinton's lack of military background, and his libertarian 1960s past, would inhibit him from ever using force in defense of American interests.

Now that he is committed to the Haiti operation, the critics have been quick to accuse him of trying to collect some military credentials - as if the leader of the United States is using its might to prove his manhood.

It is correct and healthy that there should be critical opposition to any major US initiative; that is why democracies have "loyal opposition" parties in their legislatures, and a free press. But once the executive has taken advice, weighed the impli-

cations and then made a decision, the least the leader can expect is that petty and personal politics will be laid aside, and that the country and its allies will rally in full support.

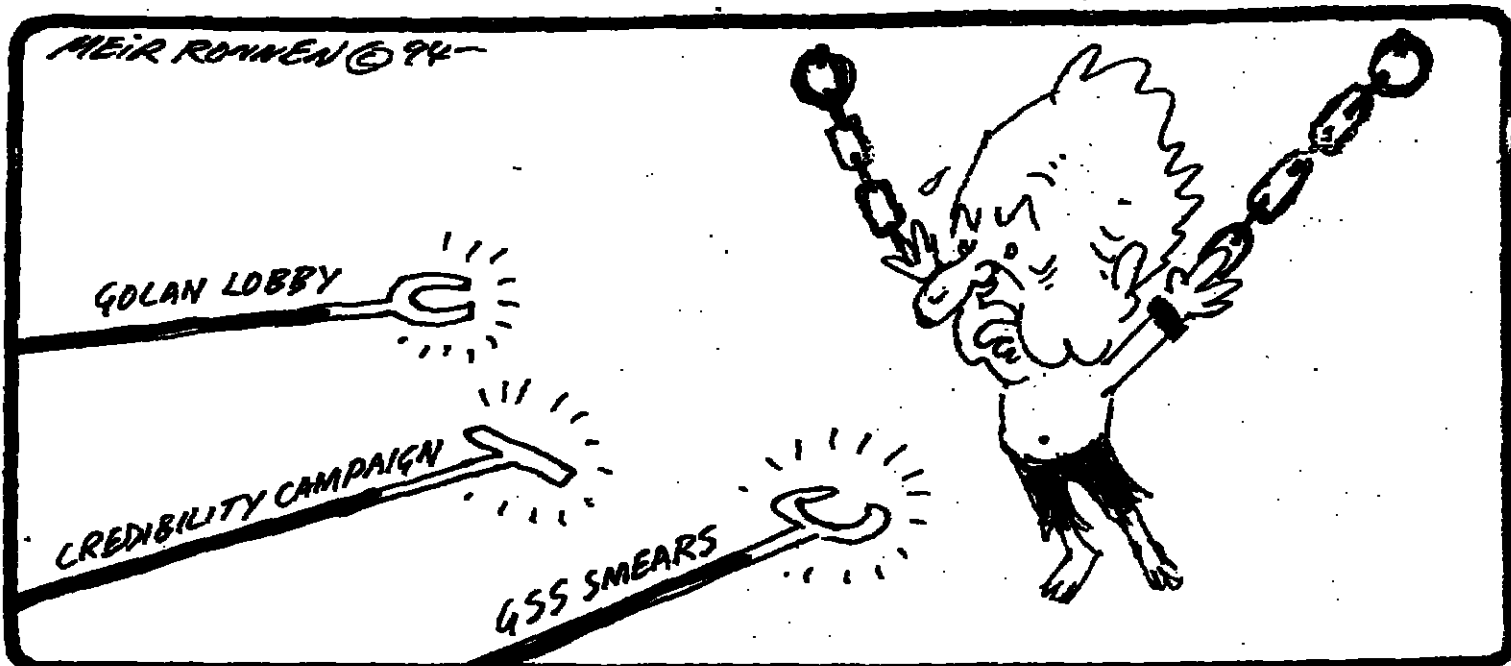
When Britain invaded the Falkland Islands, the US persisted in seeking a political solution until the eleventh hour. But once it was clear Britain would not be swayed nor Argentina budged, Washington threw its full military and diplomatic support behind its old British friend and ally. Now that it appears the Haiti invasion is going ahead, US friends should stand up and be counted.

In the storm of opposition in the US - much of it politically motivated Republican posturing in advance of November's mid-term elections - it appears to have been forgotten that the administration has already obtained a United Nations mandate for its proposed intervention. UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali made this perfectly clear yesterday: "When a decision will be taken concerning an intervention in Haiti, I can just tell you that this decision is in conformity with Resolution 940, which was adopted by the Security Council," he said.

It is already clear from the defiance of world opinion by the junta in Haiti that the tinpot generals there think they can defy a dithering and indecisive Washington. It is not an attitude the US can afford to see exported to the rest of the world. Raoul Cedras and his minions defied world opinion by throwing out the elected president of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and have continued to defy it with a vicious abuse of power exercised over the most wretched people in the Caribbean. They have ignored clear warnings to desist and retire - just as Manuel Noriega did in Panama. Now they must pay the price.

As for the US request to Israel to provide a police contingent after the military operation, the government has responded positively and will make the final decision upon evaluating the security situation after the invasion - a reasonable attitude. When former defense minister Ariel Sharon said that "Israel doesn't have to send its forces to fight battles of others," he seemed particularly mean-minded.

Washington asked for policemen, not soldiers, and Sharon seems to have forgotten that Israel benefited from the destruction of the dangerous Iraqi war machine thanks to the US. The least Israel's greatest and most loyal friend can expect is a little respect and when it seeks a moderate favor as it goes to war.



Come clean, Yitzhak Rabin

YOSSI OLMERT

HAFEZ Assad isn't known as a prolific public speaker. This is why his relatively rare speeches are of the utmost significance. In them, one can find the key to the Syrian leader's strategic thinking and often also to his tactics.

Such was the speech in March 1992, when Assad referred to "world changes, which began to loom on the horizon in the second half of the Eighties. All the previous world changes that emerged in the aftermath of WWI seemed of little significance in terms of repercussions on the Arab homeland, compared to the upcoming, far-reaching changes. Instead of making progress we found ourselves, continually retreating."

Such also was the speech Assad made last Saturday, at the opening of the new People's Assembly. It was businesslike. "We, in Syria, want our rights and lands; you in Israel deserve to receive in turn the objective requirements of peace."

Gone were the Assad speeches of the 1970s and 1980s, in which he spoke of blood, sweat and tears; of fighting to the finish. The order of the day was to negotiate with Israel and please the US.

Assad's target audience throughout the peace process has always been the US. Why? Because Assad believes that "owing to the 'qualitative world changes' of the late 1980s, the American era is here to stay."

Everything that happened in the early 1990s, particularly the collapse of the USSR and Iraq's crushing military defeat in the Gulf war, has underscored American supremacy. Almost everything currently unfolding on the world scene tends to strengthen Assad's conviction.

The US wants to restore Ariste in Haiti and the UN Security Council approves; the US puts pressure on Castro, and the Cuban dictator invites himself for negotiations with the Americans; Kim Il Sung dies, and his son and successor continues talks with the Clinton administration, discussing

The Golan is a tiny piece of land. Unlike the Sinai, it lacks a major national symbol like the Suez Canal; sources of revenue, such as oil, or historic and religious sites.

The restoration of the Golan is, for Assad, a matter of personal and national pride, which

Assad's made it clear, and you know it: there'll be no peace if the Arabs don't get the Golan

America's demand that North Korea stop supplying long-range missiles to Iran and Syria.

In sum, the US dominates world politics, and its administration is cultivating unprecedentedly friendly relations with Rabin's Israel. No more Bush-Baker and their acrimonious relationship with the Shamir government. Now it's Clinton and Christopher, who make it a rule to coordinate and cooperate with Israel.

Analyzing all this, Assad has come to the conclusion that Syria must mend its fences with the US, and making peace with Israel is an essential element of this policy. In Assad's view, the road to Washington runs through Jerusalem.

IN STRATEGIC terms, this is an irreversible decision, but Assad set his own limits. Most important of these is the determination to get the Golan Heights back, lock stock and barrel - and he means exactly that.

counts heavily in our part of the world.

Initially, Assad believed that the Madrid framework - simultaneous talks between Israel and four Arab parties designed to lead to a comprehensive settlement - was compatible with his policies. To his mind, Lebanon (now well under Syrian hegemony), Jordan (always reluctant to take an independent course) and the Palestinians (negotiating from a position of weakness) were all junior partners in the process.

Syria was the senior Arab partner, in keeping with its traditional standing in "Greater Syria." Assad believed he could determine the course of the talks, either by preventing progress or, conversely, sweeping all the Arabs along on his coattails. This was Assad's planning, but it went sour.

Israel negotiated with the PLO, something which was deemed impossible in Damascus, and King Hussein finally took the plunge

and came closer than ever before to signing a peace treaty with Israel.

Yet Assad, bitter though he may be, is still firmly in the process, displaying a desire to salvage what he can out of it. For this reason, Assad isn't likely to deviate from his demand for complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, as well as from southern Lebanon.

In return, the Syrians stated publicly that they were ready to adopt a model of full-fledged diplomatic relations with Israel, along the lines of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

This corresponds with Rabin's consistent demand that Syria state that, in so many words:

Since the government was aware of this Syrian position already a year ago, the information having been passed through unofficial channels, it is abundantly clear that it ought not to entertain any hope of a deal with Syria without a complete Israeli withdrawal. Rabin isn't naive; and yet he still says, in public at least, that he isn't ready to accept full withdrawal.

Still, Rabin does acknowledge that there has been progress in the talks with Syria.

But the moment of truth is fast approaching. If there is any progress with Syria, if a joint Israeli-Syrian Declaration of Principles is likely in the near future, it is because the Syrians already know that Israel is ready for full withdrawal from the Golan.

The Israeli public is also entitled to know the truth. And the sooner the better.

The writer, a commentator on Middle Eastern affairs, recently published a monograph on Israel-Syria negotiations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RABBINICAL SERMONS

Sir, - The Reform and Orthodox movements in the US, attempting from afar to influence American policy on what they perceive to be Israel's security requirements, have unabashedly mixed religion and politics, to the detriment of the former and the further uglification of the latter.

David Isaacs, in his article "Information packet used to tilt opinion toward peace" (September 2), describes the mailings that the Reform movement sent out to its rabbis with the encouragement of Yitzhak Rabin. A pity that he didn't include some excerpts. Here are a few: Rabbi Yehuda Amital, head of the Meiknada movement, writes: "The Jewish settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza will have the full and exclusive protection of the State of Israel and the Israeli army. The practical significance of this is the continuation of the natural growth of the settlements in security and honor. Construction will not be halted, including that of houses and factories... It is the government's responsibility... to find channels for communicating with the settlers to make them realize that the government is not abandoning them or treating them as second-class citizens."

How naive can one get? Truly, there are none so blind as the willfully blind.

A second gem is an article, curiously entitled "A triumph for democracy," by Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, executive

director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America. It takes us completely into cloud-cuckoo-land. After bailing Arafat's statements recognizing Israel, Hirsch declares: "Instead of Israelis sending their own sons to fight the intifada, the PLO will do it. When asked in a private meeting with American Jewish leaders how he would respond if there is violence among Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, Yitzhak Rabin said: 'We will give the PLO more guns.'"

During the next five years, the PLO and moderate Palestinians will struggle to keep violence to a minimum and discipline extremists... During the next five years, no questions of sovereignty, populations, boundaries, Jerusalem or refugees will be determined... Well, it is great to have that reassurance from the good rabbi. We shall have his prayers if things don't work out that way. It is nice to have God on our side.

Let the rabbis of all denominations devote their sermons to aliyah, to promoting investment, to protesting against the lack of religious pluralism here, to addressing any one of hundred social ills rather than have them tell us how we should deal with the Syrians, what should be our policy on the West Bank, and how to relate to Arafat.

Their lives are not on the line. Ours are.

ELIEZER WHARTMAN
Jerusalem.

SPREADING INNUENDO

Sir, - On August 19, I made one of my now infrequent purchases of The Jerusalem Post (the change in editorial style that accompanied new ownership was just too much for me). My eyes were drawn to an article entitled "The Palestinian 'White Paper'" by Shmuel Karz. I am afraid that this article has finally convinced me that your publication has become little less than a comic, and a potentially dangerous comic at that.

Mr. Karz seeks to make a point concerning a common thread between the hidden agendas of the British government during the 1939-45 war, and contemporary Arab policy towards the state of Israel; a hidden agenda that, in his words, plots the "death of the Jewish State." So far, I have no complaint. This is a topic on which we can go down to the library, collate some information, and have a discussion about the relevant issues.

But the language used in the article is suggestive of a far deeper conspiracy on the part of the British and the Arabs. He states that Britain had "an unabashed plan for 'final' betrayal," and that the British government had a "lethal behavior towards the Jewish people." Dramatic use of words... and judicious use of scare quotes marks! And finally, Mr. Karz just can't resist going too far by relating that "all the terrible acts against the Jews of Europe were 'legitimized' by the British Government's infamous White Paper of 1939." This final comment is at best offensive and at worst inciteful. Having searched the text of the White Paper for anything that might "legitimize" the killing of six million innocent civilians, I fail to see how such a claim can be defended.

Finally, I am disappointed that the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post allows such offensive text to come to print. Whilst Mr. Karz is entitled to his view on the matter, in question, he is not entitled to use the national press to spread innuendo and unsubstantiated allegations that contribute nothing to knowledge and understanding.

PAUL JEFFREY

A brand new partnership in peace

GABI SHEFFER

THE growing gap between Israel and the Diaspora cannot be attributed simply to what happens in the Diaspora, especially not just to growing assimilation there.

To be sure, the campaign against assimilation and to ensure Jewish "continuity" has contributed to the Diaspora turning inward toward its own internal affairs, and to a widening of the gap with Israel.

But the reasons for Diaspora disengagement from Israel are many. Some, like the peace process, stem from here; others - assimilation, intermarriage, aging communities - are rooted in the Diaspora. These developments have led to major changes in the way communities allocate their resources. This is reflected in the proportion of community funds kept to ensure their own continuity; less is being sent to Israel.

A profound ideological change has also occurred. Most younger Jews are liberals, rejecting all notions of national loyalty, and fierce in their defense of human and political rights. They show a clear inclination toward pluralism and individualism, enhancing the importance of personal and local communal affairs. Lastly, they display enmity toward the large Jewish organizations controlled by professionals loyal to Israel.

Israel and its behavior also accounts for a widening of the gap.

American Jews feel deeply disappointed over what they perceive as Israel's mediocrity and its failure to become an exemplary state. This unflattering image feeds their strong inclination to move toward Diaspora autonomy and reject Israel's claim to centrality.

Both religious and secular US

facing existential threats and major economic difficulties. These were the main reasons for raising Diaspora funds for Israel, and the professional Zionists on both sides also benefited.

However, Diaspora Jews have come to realize the gap between appearance and reality regarding

Israel and the Diaspora have to take a step back from each other so they can meet again in genuine mutual respect

Jews are disappointed; the former that Israel isn't a theocracy, the latter that it isn't a secular state. American Jews on the whole dislike Israeli aggressiveness and intolerance, the government's continuous support of and cooperation with large American Jewish organizations and the coolness most Israeli governments, including Rabin's, have shown to Diaspora Jews.

TILL NOW, certain images, promoted by Israel and Diaspora professionals, have determined the level of Diaspora involvement in Israel. One of these was an Israel

the economic situation here, and this has made them less willing to support Israel.

More recently, Diaspora Jews believe that Israel now faces no existential threat. On the contrary: it is a tremendous military power, one which has, at times, used its overwhelming power unjustly, especially vis-à-vis the Palestinians.

Peace and normalization in the region can only widen the gap between Israel and the Diaspora. Normalization, the quintessential Zionist dream, will surely weaken the "special relationship" between Israel and Diaspora Jews.

Today, US Jews' perception is that it is the existence of the Diaspora that is under threat, not so much because of antisemitism, but because of assimilation. Thus, all the Jews who have, until now, supported Israel confidently are marshaling their energies for pressing problems at home.

US Jews cannot do otherwise if they are to ensure their continuity. And yet, such a situation may be healthy, creating greater symmetry between Israel and Diaspora Jews.

Diaspora Jews will have rid themselves of domination by the professionals, and their Jewish organizations will be controlled by people genuinely interested in continued Jewish existence. The result will be a Diaspora-Israel relationship maintained voluntarily, and out of mutual interest and respect.

This isn't a post-Zionist analysis. It calls neither for the diminution of the Israeli-Diaspora connection; neither does it doubt the desirability of close relations between these two parts of the Jewish people. It is a true interpretation of Zionism toward the end of the 20th century, with peace on the threshold.

The writer teaches political science and is the director of the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations at the Hebrew University.

BEZEK PROFITS

Sir, - The Jerusalem Post of September 1 states on page 8: "Bezek reports NIS 57 million net profit in first half of year." In the same edition on page 12, you report: "Both Bezek and the Postal Authority are raising their rates, effective today..."

I think the public is entitled to an explanation for a rise in phone rates.

AUDREY GOODMAN

Ramat Hasharon.

STING INTERVIEW

Sir, - In an interview with Paolo Hewitt for the English weekly *Melody Maker*, published on September 4, 1992, rock singer Sting (who is due here for three shows) showed his true colors while replying to a question about his film career by stating: "It pisses me off that the Israelis are massacring the Palestinians and no one seems to care... When atrocities like that can happen without any real reaction from world opinion, I think it's the end."

DANNY RATNER

Yavne.

Jerusalem.

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FRUIT HILL, Rhode Island, is a neighborhood of shuttered ranch houses, crisp green lawns, maple trees and geraniums, where neighbors went to one another across their driveways and open doors to strangers.

So when a lifelong resident was killed by a shotgun blast to the head and his next-door neighbor charged with murder, the neighborhood was stunned by the apparent source of the dispute: the 2-meter-high hedges separating their property.

The body of Ronald Volpe, 39, was found face down in his hedges, pruning shears and a stepladder

nearby. James Gallagher, 35, was being held without bail.

They began a quiet feud three years ago, when Gallagher pruned the hedges all the way down to the branches. Volpe's father had planted the hedges.

"There was no yelling or fighting about it," said Mildred Hennessey, who lives across the street. "There might have been a few bars, a few words, but they never fought about it."

The two men grew up in their adjacent houses. But Hennessey said she never saw them playing together as children or socializing thereafter.

No one had any explanation for the killing.

"I don't know if some clippings went in Gallagher's driveway or what," offered Hennessey.

A MAN walked into a McDonald's in Canada and ordered a burger without dressing - and was refused service. Problem was, he was the underserved beefcake.

Wearing nothing more than two blue shoes, the unnamed diner walked into the eatery in Thunder Bay, Ontario, and ordered a burger. When staff refused to fulfill the order he dashed out into the street, where police caught him.

"He would have had trouble paying for it," said a Thunder Bay policeman.

EVEN QUAIN English villages can have enough of cozy tea rooms.

A row has erupted in picturesque Dunster, a sleepy hamlet in western England, over plans to open yet another tea shop to satisfy the summer tourist hordes' thirst for a "cuppa" with scones and lashings of clotted cream.

The village of 858 people already has 15 tea rooms crammed along its cobbled main street.

Jews -
Hurrah
The writer, a commentator on Middle Eastern affairs, recently published a monograph on Israel-Syria negotiations.
DAMP?
In Jerusalem and City Lights Holiday Dealines
has been moved forward
space reservations must be made by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18

Jews – an endangered species

NACHUM RABINOVITCH

IT IS 55 years since the German attack on Poland. German casualties in the war were immense. Yet there are 17 million more Germans now than there were in September 1939. There are 20 million more Japanese than in 1941, when Japan entered the war. Soviet Russia suffered massive losses in the war, yet there are now 19 million more Russians than when Hitler invaded Russia.

From the spiritual point of view, every human life is irreplaceable, but the power and influence of nations is determined by sheer numbers. On that score, all the belligerents have long since made up their minds. For demographers, the searing tragedy of global bloodletting which was the Second World War has already been reduced to just a squiggle on the growth graph.

But not for the Jews. Before that tragic Rosh Hashana 5700, there were 18 million of us in the world – even then not a numerous people. Now we are perhaps 14 million. The proportion of Jews on the globe has gone down from about 1 percent to less than one-third of a percent.

Thus we are still an endangered species. Only now the threat of extinction comes not from the outside, but from ourselves. That fiend Mengele, who destroyed tens of thousands of Jewish children, must be laughing at us in his South American hideout, or from his grave. It is a simple, incontrovertible fact: every Jewish child not born adds to his score against us.

There are many reasons, some of them sound, why couples choose not to have that one more baby. But those reasons add up to an unprecedented national tragedy.

And the choice not to have more than one or two children is often either a symptom or a cause of emotional starvation. In simple terms: love doesn't flow freely in such families. There is either too little or too much, and the children are often permanently affected.

lacking the sense of being loved that would enable them to love others. They cannot build stable marital relationships, and so the disease spreads, with an ever-increasing toll of family breakdowns and unhappiness.

Why do so many young Jews fall prey to the blandishments of cults

human situation is entirely simple. Every human problem has different facets, often even contradictory causes. Every rule has its exceptions, and in individual cases, special factors frequently outweigh general considerations. That is why Jewish law does not rule out family planning absolute-

One of the saddest mistakes of Israel's early days was the belief that families should stay small

and gurus peddling all sorts of falsehoods? The answer in almost all cases is that they are emotionally immature and underdeveloped. Not rooted in their parental homes, their spirits are starved. They cannot draw spiritual sustenance from parents who haven't any themselves.

The human havoc of rising divorce rates, with children tossed between separated parents, of young people driven by their thirst for affection into nihilistic promiscuity – all these are part of the frightful price our society is paying for the sin of selfishness that has spread throughout our social structure. Its most obvious manifestation is the attitude which sees children not as a blessing in themselves, but as objects to be manipulated.

The foundation of the healthy human family is love, sustaining not only children, but their parents as well. Artificially stopping up those wellsprings of the soul cannot be other than destructive.

THE GLORY of Judaism is its unique synthesis of realism and faith.

Torah law recognizes that no

ly. Even abortion is permitted in special cases.

Yet it is precisely this reasonableness of the Jewish attitude which has been twisted and falsified beyond recognition. Of all groups and social strata throughout the Western world, Jews more than most have swallowed uncritically the puerile preachments of social "prophets" who dominate the media with a message of selfishness wrapped up in a pretty package of so-called science, liberalism, women's rights, and other popular slogans. These hucksters even invented the term "people pollution" to disguise the anti-people poison that permeates their propaganda.

Certainly, the developing world has nations whose natural increase is outrunning their own and the world's resources. Yet it is patently untrue that zero growth among Jews, or most Western countries, for that matter, would contribute one iota to solving the world's ills. Every child born in a developed country will, on average, produce far more than it consumes, helping to feed more hungry mouths in other countries.

Israel is a dramatic example of this fundamental truth. The increase of Jews in Israel several-fold since statehood has transformed Israeli agriculture, making it a net exporter of food. Not only do Israelis feed themselves; they provide fruits and vegetables for Europe's markets as well. Before the state, the far smaller population of the country could not raise enough food for its own needs.

Unfortunately, Israel is an equally dramatic example of another less happy truth. In the early days of statehood, the problems of coping with massive immigration were overwhelming. Available resources were too meager to provide adequate housing for the rapid influx. There were also serious planning mistakes. The most serious stemmed from a slavish acceptance of then current fads of sociological theory.

It was thought that, to adapt to the brave new world of the Fifties and Sixties, the immigrants needed to be introduced to the pattern of the nuclear family, with one or two children at most. Consequently, housing units were small. This fitted in well with economic and even security considerations, since it meant constructing large buildings containing numerous cubby-hole-sized individual apartments.

Thus Israel's towns rapidly filled up with housing which is a major factor in discouraging larger families. Unlike the Arabs, who build their homes with a view to extending them as their families grow, the Jews were – and to a large extent still are – cooped up in tight quarters.

Family size vitally affects national policy as well as the urgent personal needs of every one of us. We ignore this at our peril.

If any species is threatened, it is the Jews.

The writer is the head of the Birkat Moshe hesder yeshiva in Ma'aleh Adumim.



Arab journalist-slaves

BASSEM EID

AMONG civilized peoples, it is assumed that a citizen has a right to express his opinion. But this isn't the case in Third World, especially Arab, states. There, governments persist in viewing freedom of expression as a crime, to be punished harshly and arbitrarily.

Journalists are persecuted and the news media victimized, especially when there is a misunderstanding between two Arab countries or leaders. In such cases, the authorities exploit the media, and a media war is launched against the rival state or leader. Battle is joined by the press of both countries.

One example of this is what happened when the Declaration of Principles between the PLO and Israel was signed in Washington last September. The Jordanian news media began a savage attack against the PLO, accusing it of seceding from the Arab world and breaching Arab unity. The Jordanian media were playing a tune dictated to them by their masters, repeating incessantly that Jordan was the key to any solution in the Middle East.

When Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel in Akaba recently, the Syrian press was in uproar. It launched a media war against the Jordanian leadership for having signed a separate peace agreement with Israel. Whose press will stir up a similar row about Syria, should it sign an agreement with Israel?

This deliberate misuse of the media to highlight political disputes between leaderships and states evokes deep concern.

How is it possible to create a free, independent and constructive press that can play a real, and effective role, worthy of the praise of public opinion?

Concerning the Palestinian press of the occupied territories, the situation is much worse. The ongoing Israeli occupation has undoubtedly had very damaging effects on the professional performance of Palestinian journalists. As a consequence, the Palestinian press has alienated itself from its Palestinian readers, who have lost

interest in it, owing to the poor quality of its reporting and analysis. This is mostly because of the Israeli military censorship.

Some months ago, the Israeli military censor sent a circular to all owners of Palestinian newspapers, warning them that they must stop publishing news from their correspondents in the occupied territories and limit their report-

Freedom of expression is right at the bottom of Palestinian society's list of priorities

ing to the news already broadcast by Israel Radio and TV. And even those reports get censored from time to time.

HOW CAN a free press develop under military occupation, with a military censor deciding what to publish?

Censorship, already very tight since February 1993, became even tighter after the Machpela Cave massacre on February 25, 1994. Permission to journalists from the territories to enter Israel and East Jerusalem was not given any more. This measure was extended even to those working for the Palestinian press, based in East Jerusalem.

The many restrictions, abuses and violations during the years of occupation, have lowered the level of Palestinian journalism. It will take a long time and much effort to improve the situation of the press in any substantial way.

A workshop held in Paris in July by Reporters Sans Frontiers, a European group dedicated to protecting journalists the world over, provided some useful recommendations on promoting a free press.

But on the same day that the participating journalists reached agreement on what should be done and by whom, President Yasser Arafat surprised us by announcing the suspension of the distribution of the Jerusalem-based newspaper *An-Nahar* in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

This was because of the political crisis that had engulfed Palestinian-Jordanian relations, arising out of the crisis concerning Jerusalem in general, and the holy sites in particular. *An-Nahar* was an early victim of this crisis because of its alleged "Jordanian tendencies," according to the Palestinian leadership.

Matters got worse when, a few days later, *Al-Quds* sacked one of its leading journalists because he had signed a petition against the suspension of *An-Nahar* which was submitted to Arafat. This illustrates the prejudice and harm to which journalists' rights are constantly exposed. Freedom of expression seems to be right at the bottom of the list of priorities for Palestinian society.

Then, a week or so later, the head of the Jerusalem District in the Israeli Ministry of Interior cancelled the license to publish the Jerusalem-based *Al-Bayan*, on the pretext that the paper had ties to the Islamic opposition movement Hamas.

How long will the freedom of the Arab press remain in servitude to the authorities, and how long will Arab journalists remain the slaves of their governments? If the journalists cannot liberate themselves, the emancipation of the press in Arab states is unlikely.

Arab journalists may take part in endless conferences, workshops and seminars on the theme of freedom of the press. But as soon as they return to their countries, all the declarations made during these gatherings evaporate from their minds.

How can Arabs/Palestinians build a free and independent press, one that isn't for hire or open to subjugation?

The writer is a human rights activist and a Palestinian journalist.

Hurrah for Baram's peace tourism!

AMIEL UNGAR

ISRAEL'S citizens are getting a chance to decide. The government doesn't solicit our opinion on the Rabin-Arafat pact or the future of the Golan – but the Ministry of Tourism wants our help in choosing a logo.

To spur the new campaign on behalf of "peace tourism," we can choose any of five logos, as long as it's in the shape of a dove. There's a bright orange dove for the citrus growers, a green dove for ecologists, a wavy dove for aquatic enthusiasts, and a Star of David contorted into a dove for contortionists.

The remaining choice is a puzzle. Perhaps it's a praying-hands dove for those who think the process has places as in desperate need of prayer; or maybe it's a see-no-evil dove, blithely optimistic despite evidence to the contrary.

So far, the debate on public brainwashing has focused, wrongly, on the Ministry of Education's decision to make peace the central theme of the current school year. Yet Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein and his director-general, Shimshon Shoshani, retaining a sense of intellectual honesty, undoubtedly realize that too blatant a campaign would boomerang among students and their parents.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about Labor stalwart Uzi

Baram, current Minister of Peace Tourism. The advertisement accompanying the logo campaign grows that peace has inaugurated a flourishing new era, and an ensuing tourism boom. This boom,

countries offering more sun and surf for the dollar.

Even if the tourists were to arrive in droves, the beneficiary wouldn't necessarily be the Israeli economy or its hotel industry.

It will be wonderful... for Israel's neighbors

we are told, will improve the level of local services, promote the development of recreation sites (something we locals do not merit on our own) and bring down the level of taxation (sic).

SO MUCH for the hype. The reality is somewhat different.

In this initial year of peace tourism, Israel is running a tourism deficit as departing Israelis outnumber incoming tourists. Kurdish and other terrorist occasional target Turkish tourist resorts, but Israelis flock to them all the same, oblivious to the fact that Turkey still has no peace tourism.

If Israel is to become a normal sun-and-surf country, it will have to compete head-to-head with

At a recent protest meeting, the Israel Tour Guide Association accused the government of liquidating the tourist industry through concessions to the Palestinians.

Geography isn't this government's strong suit. But with Amman an hour's distance from Jerusalem, and Bethlehem and Ramallah literally perched on Jerusalem (forget the future disposition of Jerusalem), it should be obvious that many peace tourists will be based in cheaper Arab hotels. They will be escorted by Arab guides whose narrative of Mideast history merits a collective place of honor in David Bar-Ilan's *Eye on the Media*. As part of early empowerment, these guides have already been conceded re-

sponsibility for all sites in Judea and Samaria, including the Tomb of the Patriarchs and Rachel's Tomb.

Maybe we have hit upon the real meaning of peace tourism. Peace, in the present government's vocabulary, translates as the surrender of tangible assets to the Arabs.

For "peace agriculture" read eliminating Jewish agriculture and importing sewage-enriched vegetables from Gaza. Under the guise of "peace industry," our industrialists will establish factories relying on cheap Arab manpower and lay off Jewish factory workers. In a peace defense policy, the Palestinian cops are the keystone, since Israel has abdicated many of its prerogatives in the war against terror.

Is it any wonder that peace tourism, as currently envisaged, will transfer tourism benefits from Israel to its neighbors?

A final word to Uzi Baram and his agency: Entrusting tourism to guides who deny or falsify the record of Jewish history in this region is a moral outrage and an information catastrophe.

We can release a whole flock of doves into the air. But, ultimately, we'll be viewed as the pigeons.

The writer teaches political science at Bar-Ilan University.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1994

Russia's war on inflation to be a priority in 1995

Fruit, vegetables push CPI up by 1.1%

ST. PETERSBURG (Reuters) - Russia's Central Bank chief Viktor Geraschenko vowed yesterday to make fighting inflation a priority in 1995, but warned that tight money and a payments crisis would bring an "unprecedented fall" in output.

"Time has shown that moderately tough monetary policies were justified," Geraschenko, a conservative who has only recently donned a monetarist hat, told a banking conference.

"A movement towards stabilization in monetary and credit spheres has appeared in the third year of economic reform."

Positive interest rates, a relatively stable ruble, the growth of interbank credit markets and Treasury bills sales to finance the budget deficit were encouraging signs of a stabilization in the Russian economy, Geraschenko said.

Treasury bills were first issued in May 1993. Since then, turnover has risen to the equivalent of \$45 million a day.

"Positive interest rates, along with relative stability in the ruble, encourage savings and promote domestic investment," Geraschenko said. "We've launched a completely new mechanism of

macro-economic policies. It is far from perfect but it allows us to fight inflation."

Geraschenko said monthly inflation would be steady at 4.5 percent in September after 4.0% in August, and fall gradually to 3% or slightly more by the end of 1995. Inflation has fallen steadily from a 1994 peak of 23% in January.

But Geraschenko said it was too early to rejoice. The cost of deflationary policies would be dear, he warned.

"This is not yet a victory," Geraschenko said. "The normal functioning of the monetary system is not possible without stabilization in other sectors of the economy."

"The results of this year will be contradictory. Along with positive signs there will be an unprecedented fall in output, accompanied by a non-payment crisis and worsening financial situation in almost all sectors of production," he said.

Some Western bankers agreed. "Russia must have steady currency to stabilize its economy, but on the other hand it must have stable economy to achieve a steady currency," said Thomas Gagnon, vice-president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

The government has yet to tackle the mounting inter-enterprise debt

which stood at \$5 trillion rubles (\$24 billion) in July. Many firms and local authorities are refusing to pay creditors and suppliers in hope that the government will intervene.

Bankers say it remains to be seen whether reform is still the flavor of the month. If the government bows to pressure from powerful industrial bosses to monetize the arrears, inflation could start rising again, they warn.

"The non-payment crisis is connected to radical changes in the whole economic system," said Pierre Plantade, a director at Banque Nationale de Paris.

"Directors of enterprises have no incentive to raise output. That makes it impossible to settle monetary problems completely. The main task is to return to people the desire to produce."

Geraschenko forecast the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) would be down 19 percent this year over 1993. Production would stabilize in 1995, but only at a "critically low" level.

Industrial output fell 23.4% in January-August over 1993. Many economists and bankers, however, do not believe in official statistics because they ignore a booming private sector.

THE Consumer Price Index jumped 1.1 percent in August, marking the sixth consecutive month with inflation of one percent or more.

Central Bureau of Statistics spokesman David Neuman reported that inflation is now estimated to be running at 14.5% annually.

Fruit and vegetable prices jumped ahead of housing prices, contributing 0.4 percentage points to the index, with housing contributing only 0.3%. Together, they made up nearly two-thirds of the index's rise.

Housing prices moderated their upward course last month, after accelerating in previous months and heating up overall inflation. According to the bureau's bi-monthly housing price survey, during June and July prices rose 1.1% compared to 3.2% in the previous two months. This was the lowest increase registered since March 1992.

Apartment prices rose 1.5% last month, while rents rose a more moderate 0.9%, pushing overall housing prices up 1.4%. Since August 1993, housing prices have shot up 28%.

The cost of a standard basket of goods and services for the average urban family rose to NIS 6,070, including housing, compared with NIS 6,005 in July. Excluding housing, the basket cost NIS 4,650, compared with NIS 4,610.

Jonathan Katz, head of the Economic Modeling and Forecasting organization, said the smaller rise in housing prices was good news and was an important sign of lower inflation ahead. He added that he expected that housing prices will increase less than the overall index this month.

Fruit and vegetable prices, on the other hand, surged 9.1% last month, rising 19.7% since the beginning of the year, compared with 19.2% for housing. Fresh vegetable prices shot up 15.6%, while fresh fruit prices rose 9.8%. Katz, however, said that unlike housing, fruit and vegetable prices hikes are of a temporary nature and, should normal growing conditions prevail, prices will drop next year and have a disinflationary effect.

The price of zucchini jumped 28.4% last month, as did the prices of cucumbers (23.1%), tomatoes (22.4%), potatoes (16.2%), carrots (14.6%), string beans (12.7%) and eggplant (12.4%). The price of melon shot up 41.5%, watermelon, 37%; pomegranate, 33%; oranges, 15.4%; peaches, 14.5% and plums 9.4%. By contrast, mango prices dropped 15.7%, grapes, 13.5% and bananas, 1.3%.

August's 3.7% cost-of-living wage adjustment contributed to the 2% rise in the residential construction input index, as the wage component increased by 3.1%.

According to Katz, housing prices would have risen even more moderately without the cost-of-living adjustment.

Katz sees the moderation in housing prices as the result of the significant drop in the public's financial assets following the stock market's fall earlier this year. The impact of consumers' perceived erosion of their wealth is lagging by four to six months, he said.

Katz warned, however, that it is too early to celebrate. "I can't say the trend won't reverse itself," he said.

He sees a possibility that the new tax on the stock market will create a shift away from stocks and into real estate, and that consequently greater demand for housing will push prices upward.

Katz said that the 0.8% rise in the Producer Price Index was slightly worrisome, after it had only increased by 0.5% in July. He noted that part of the rise can be explained by seasonal factors, such as the increase in the price of textiles before the winter season.

Katz expects that this month's index will be very similar to August's, although it could be slightly higher, as the prices of government services will contribute 0.5% to the index, reflecting higher public transportation, telephone,

postal service and education prices.

August's rise brought the index to 114.3 points on a baseline averaging 100 in 1993, compared with 113.1 points in July.

In response to last month's CPI, Manufacturers Association President Dan Propper said that the rise in inflation was not the main problem facing the country's economy, but rather the large trade gap. He blamed the Bank of Israel's monetary and exchange rate policy for slowing down the economy.

In particular, Propper criticized the central bank's interest rate hikes that are aimed at contending with 14.5% inflation, while the exchange rate policy assumes an inflation rate of 8%, making exports more expensive and imports cheaper.

August's consumer price index breakdown

	% change from July '94	% change from August '93
General index	1.1	13.6
Food	0.6	8.3
Fruits & Veg.	9.1	21.8
Housing	1.4	28.0
Clothing	-2.7	5.4
Health	0.8	13.9
Education	0.6	11.0
Transportation & Communications	0.6	10.6

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

- Financial markets worldwide are dominated by the perception that the nadir of the interest rate cycle has been passed in the developed world. Corporate results seasons have been most satisfactory, but equities are being constrained by fragile bonds.
- In the UK, the base rate change (-50 bps to 5.75%) was initially well received, despite its poor timing, but the markets have soon moved to discount a further 50bps rise this year, and a trend to 7.5%-8% next year. We expect further weakness in the London equity market short term. Cooleson Group (22.51) posted better-than-expected interim profits; the shares have proved resilient, and our clients remain buyers.
- In Norway, the equity market has risen by 11% from its June low, providing a good profit-taking opportunity for some clients, while others are looking to buy Norsk Hydro shares (US \$36.35) on any weakness. In Sweden, our clients are seeking to pick up Astra shares (24.70), despite the political uncertainty. In Australia, our clients are showing interest in Brau-Union (57.50), the dominant domestic brewer, which has announced a 1 for 2 bonus, and joined the ATX index on Monday, as well as Macquarie Holdings (113.25), the only large independent listed building contractor. The Greek market has been drifting lower, but some major buying interest has been seen for recent IPOs, Hellenic Telecom (57.87), over subscribed 181 times, & Pirelli Structural Works (58.36), over-subscribed 160 times. Also finding buyers are the construction company, Mechaniki (232.55), & the Hellenic Bottling Co (227.45). We have noted selling pressure in Boutades (56.47), Commercial Bank (32.31) & Elia Cleanrooms (59.57). In Turkey, the hard currency earning companies are attracting client attention, after the 8% fall in the market. Alparco is similarly cautious on US rate uncertainty, with about 60% external earnings, has recently won a US\$200m 2 year Russian hospital contract. The Polish market has found strong support at the 10000 index level, where many stocks went into a buying order have been received in Prochem (30.025) & Unilever (30.01). We believe we are experiencing in the banking sector a clients have returned to the long-dated, South African govt. bond market, as yields to non-residents have reached 21%, & the financial rand has strengthened.
- The Hong Kong market is US rate sensitive, due to the HK\$US\$ link, but our clients have been buying Henderson Land (US\$6.15) on the strength of its mainland real estate operation. Trading in Kuala Lumpur is similarly cautious on US rate uncertainty; we have experienced strong buying interest in Pan Malaysian Industries (US\$ 1.27). The Bangkok market is testing the 1500 index level, where profit-taking may set in, on which we expect to revive buying interest in Bangkok Bank (510.33) & Thai Farmers Bank (58.41).

Any information contained herein should not be construed in any way as a public offering

Notice Proposing Plan to Purchase for Cash all Classes of Shares (Including Ordinary Shares, Ordinary B Shares, and Non-Cumulative 6% Preferred B Shares) of

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at US\$ 0.0191895 Per Share

American Publishing Company

American Publishing Company, a company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware (the "Purchaser") and a subsidiary of Hollinger Inc., a company organized under the laws of Canada, hereby proposes a plan pursuant to Section 236 of the Israel Companies Ordinance (New Version), 1983, as amended, to purchase all classes of outstanding shares (the "Shares") of Palestine Post Ltd., a company organized under the laws of the State of Israel (the "Company"), not owned by the Purchaser at a purchase price of US\$0.0191895 per share in cash. The offer is being made upon the terms and subject to the conditions of Section 236 of the Companies Ordinance as set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated September 16, 1994 (the "Offer to Purchase"), and in the related Letter of Transmittal (which together constitute the "Offer") which have been sent to each of the registered shareholders of the Company.

THIS OFFER WILL EXPIRE FOUR MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT AND IS CONDITIONED UPON THE FULFILLMENT OF THE CONDITIONS OF SECTION 236 OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO WHICH THE PURCHASER WILL BE REGISTERED AS THE OWNER OF 100% OF ALL OF THE OUTSTANDING SHARES OF THE COMPANY.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Nestle profits rise 1.7 percent in first half: Nestle SA, the world's largest food and beverages group, yesterday said profits rose 1.7 percent in the first six months as a strong Swiss franc undermined profitability.

The company said the pace of profit growth would increase in the second half and that turnover for 1994 should rise slightly provided the exchange rates of leading currencies regained a certain stability between now and December.

Group net profits rose to \$990.6m. from \$975m. in the first six months of last year. Total sales fell slightly to \$21.33 billion from \$21.41b. *Reuters*

Saint-Gobain first-half profits soar: French glassmaker Saint-Gobain said yesterday its first-half profits jumped to FF 1.26 billion in the first-half of 1994, above many analysts' expectations.

The results were good news for the company, whose shares were hit by an announcement last week that its chairman Jean-Louis Beffa had been called in for questioning in a corruption probe.

Saint-Gobain reported net attributable profit of FF 452m. for the same period a year ago.

Saint-Gobain finance director Jean-Francois Phelizon told Reuters the second-half should continue in the same vein. *Reuters*

British consumers buy less in August as prices rise: British retail sales unexpectedly fell 0.3 percent last month as consumers recoiled in the face of sharp price increases when summer discounting ended, figures published yesterday showed.

Economists said the decline was evidence that fears of inflation, which have gripped financial markets since the Bank of England raised interest rates on Monday, were exaggerated.

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) said the 0.3% fall reduced the closely watched year-on-year growth rate of retail sales from 3.8% in July to 2.9% - the lowest annual rate since February, before tax rises took effect.

The July rise was revised upwards to 0.6% from 0.4% but the CSO said that was due to a downward revision to the June index. July volumes were in fact unchanged. *Reuters*

Britain invites bidders for fifth terrestrial TV station: Britain's television industry watchdog yesterday invited candidates to bid for a license to run a new terrestrial British TV station, Channel 5.

The Independent Television Commission (ITC) has been pondering for months whether to reauthorize the license. It did so in December 1992, but rejected the sole bidder because it was dissatisfied with its business plan.

But it is still not certain the channel will go ahead. *Reuters*

Pioneer International Ltd

South African Economic Statistics

	Prices 14.9.94	Prices 7.9.94	% Change
Exchange rates:			
Commercial rand (buy)	3.557	3.568	0.31%
Financial rand (buy)	4.507	4.525	0.40%
Interest rates:			
Money market (RAS)	10.80%	10.80%	0.00%
Escom 2008	16.09%	15.92%	1.07%
RSA 150	15.74%	15.58%	1.03%
Prices UTS:			
QAL Max Income (buy)	15.44%	14.56%	6.04%
UOL Investors	36.546	36.7645	-0.13%
Escom 168	68.3464	69.11518	-1.11%
Guardbank	36.546	36.7645	-0.59%
UAL Gilt	12.0113	11.971	0.34%
Max Income	10.4907	10.4781	0.17%
De Beers	110.00	109.75	0.23%
Vaal Reef	480.00	490.00	-2.04%
Anglo American	257.00	259.00	-0.77%
Barlows	86.50	87.00	-0.57%
SA Brews	35.25	35.50	-0.70%
Sasol	42.50	42.50	0.00%
Tiger Oats	4.70	4.60	2.17%
Icor	5.955	6.009	-0.90%
JSE Actuarial Overall:			

*RY - running yield.

COMMENTS: Government spending and revenue for the fiscal year will be reviewed next month, to find finance for unforeseen expenditures.

Steps are being taken to reduce government consumption expenditure. However, an additional R39m. must immediately be paid to homeland public servants, to bring their salaries in line, and this had not been budgeted for.

Economist Johan Louw, said "Economic recovery was too fragile to warrant scrapping the Financial Rand, as this would lead to higher inflation and pressure to increase interest rates."

UAL MAXIMUM INCOME FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT:
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Frenkel: Our economy too Western for regional common market

A YEAR after the historic peace agreement with the Palestinians, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel splashed cold water on visions of economic integration between Israel and the Arabs.

Frenkel said Tuesday that Israel's Western-oriented economy was incompatible with that of its Middle Eastern neighbors, and efforts should be focused instead on drawing Western investors by creating an atmosphere of stability.

"I don't believe that the nature of the economies in the Middle East is such that will create a type of European Common Market or a type of NAFTA, North American Free Trade Agreement, with the benefits that such marriages entail," Frenkel said.

In the initial euphoria following the landmark Israel-PLO peace accord, some officials predicted eventual regional economic integration.

But Frenkel told foreign journalists that even intra-Arab trade was only seven percent of the regional total. He added that Israel's economy, with its emphasis on high-tech exports, was not structured for trade with its poorer neighbors.

Israel's per-capita income is nearly \$14,000 annually, more than in some Western European countries, and some 15 times higher than in its eastern neighbor Jordan, with which it is currently discussing economic cooperation.

"I believe the benefits will come much more from... an atmosphere that is conducive for [Western] investments," Frenkel said. "The trade, however, will not be... regional. It can be with any of the other trading blocs of the world."

Frenkel also predicted that it would be years before defense spending, currently at around 10 percent of the state budget, would be significantly reduced.

He also stressed that to cash in on peace, Israel needed to complete economic reforms aimed at easing trade and currency restrictions, and bringing inflation down to the level of its main trading partners in the West.

"The reality is if you are interested in being involved in the world's goods markets, and we are... then it is in [our] interest to see us bringing down inflation to a level where we can compete," Frenkel said.

According to figures released this week, foreign debt has risen by \$1.5 billion since the beginning of the year, to \$18 billion, and the trade deficit for the first eight months of 1994 is \$3.61 billion, a third higher than during last year's equivalent period. (AP)

Bundesbank leaves interest rates unchanged

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The Bundesbank said yesterday it had left its discount and Lombard interest rates unchanged at a meeting of its policy-making council.

The discount rate remains at 4.5 percent and the Lombard rate at 6%.

The central bank's third-leading interest rate, the securities repurchase rate, or repo, was held at 4.85% for the next two weeks. The bank has anchored the repo rate at this level since late July.

Few in the markets had expected any policy moves, and both bond and stock markets in Germany ticked higher on the news.

Analysts and market players had almost unanimously agreed that the meeting would yield no interest rate cut.

German government bond futures edged higher immediately after the news, with the December bond contract rising to 88.86 points after 88.80.

German share prices rose slightly. The DAX index of 30 leading shares was down 3.96 points on the day at 2,120.16 at 1035 GMT, up from 2,117.85 just before the news.

Analysts said comments made this week by the Bundesbank's deputy president Johann Wilhelm Gaddum had all but ruled out a near-term rate move. Gaddum told journalists on Tuesday evening that monetary policy had to be aimed at preventing any upsurge in inflationary fears.

Inflation and money supply growth were moving in the right direction, Gaddum said, but he added: "I cannot imagine that with a money supply growth of nearly 10 percent... a move would be justified which could be interpreted as expansionary."

He also said that the rate of money supply growth did not justify a cut in the repo rate to 4.80 percent.

M3 money supply, which was growing at an annualized rate of 9.8% in July, has expanded at well beyond the Bundesbank's 6% target ceiling so far this year.

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ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (13.9.94)

	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.250	4.250	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.250	4.250	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$200,000)	4.250	4.250	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$500,000)	4.250	4.250	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$1,000,000)	4.250	4.250	5.125

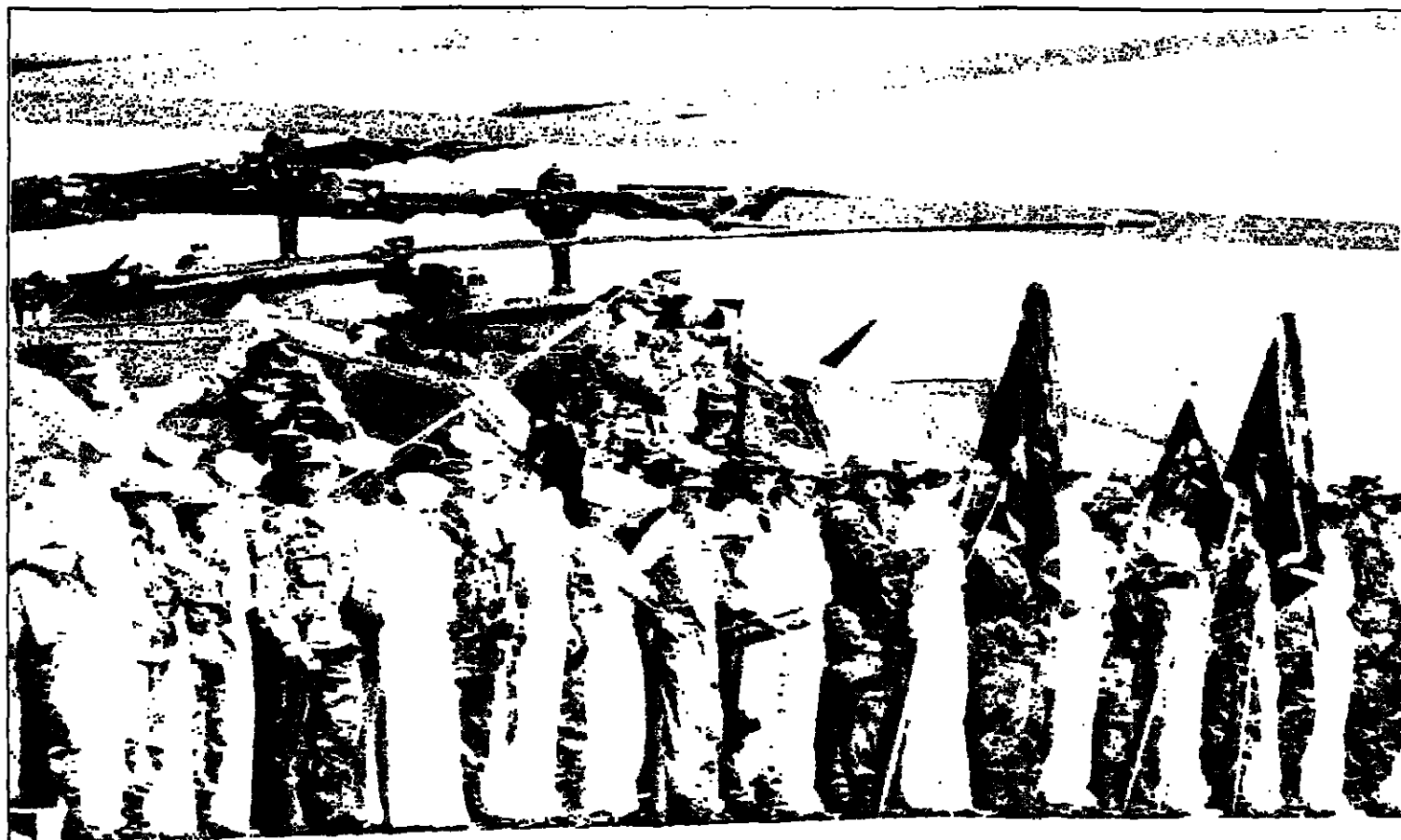
(Rates very higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (13.9.94)

	Buy	Sell	Rep.
Currency basket	3.3450	3.3500	3.3475
U.S. dollar	2.9900	3.0075	3.0000
German mark	1.8428	1.8500	1.8463
French franc	4.8771	4.8925	4.8848
Japanese yen (100)	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025
Dutch guilder	1.7507	1.7525	1.7516
Swiss franc	2.8271	2.8300	2.8285
Swedish krona	0.0422	0.0425	0.0423
Norwegian krona	0.4017	0.4025	0.4021
Denish krona	0.8127	0.8150	0.8138
Portuguese escudo	20.482	20.500	20.491
Canadian dollar	2.2138	2.2200	2.2169
Australian dollar	2.2225	2.2300	2.2262
S. African rand	0.0422	0.0425	0.0423
Belgian franc (10)	0.0422	0.0425	0.0423
Austrian schilling (100)	2.7538	2.7600	2.7569
Italian lire (1000)	1.8181	1.8200	1.8190
Spanish peseta	3.7000	3.7200	3.7100
Yen (100)	4.8225	4.8300	4.8262
Special peseta (100)	2.5888	2.5900	2.5894

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUM



US Army aviators stand with sailors on the flight deck of the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower on Wednesday as the aircraft carrier sails for the Caribbean. (Reuters)

Allies politely indifferent to US's Haiti invasion plans

WITH the countdown accelerating to a likely US-led invasion to oust Haiti's military rulers, Washington's allies in Europe and beyond watch in bemused indifference.

The main focus is on how President Bill Clinton, seen as a waverer and foreign policy novice with no military experience, comes to terms with the use of force.

Only Central American states have agreed to join the United States in a UN-sanctioned military operation to remove the generals who toppled democratically-elected president Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1991.

Other allies are considering, but few have firmly accepted, requests to help police the Caribbean state for several months after the initial battle is over.

"Haiti is seen as America's backyard. No one is very excited about this," a European diplomat said. "The main interest is probably in how Clinton comes to grips with using force."

The Haiti crisis has hardly nudged its way onto front pages in Europe and Clinton's preparations for military intervention have received none of the media glare of the run-up to the 1991 Gulf War.

Nor have there been the anti-American demonstrations and charges of imperialism which accompanied previous US military actions in the Gulf, Panama, Libya and Grenada.

Only communist China and Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, who may himself fear

PAUL TAYLOR
PARIS

armed US intervention over the Lockerbie jet bombing, have publicly criticised the US threat to invade.

Britain, traditionally America's staunchest ally and with its own interest in Caribbean stability, is sending a frigate and a refuelling ship it has in the West Indies plus a dozen military instructors to back the US military effort.

France will send about 100 policemen to help keep order after the US military operation, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Ministry spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said France believed the generals who seized power in the former French colony in 1991, overthrowing Aristide, must be made to leave.

Explaining Paris's unwillingness to take part in the military action, she said France had flung peacekeeping commitments to the United Nations and noted there had been no difficulty in putting together an intervention force.

"France was Haiti's colonial master until the early 19th century and helped save Aristide's life when he was ousted."

Former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier has lived in luxurious exile in France since he was overthrown in 1986, ending three decades of brutal rule by his family.

Belgium said it had accepted in principle a

US request to send up to 60 military police after an intervention. Belgian media suggested Brussels' willingness to help might be aimed at securing US approval for the appointment of Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes as NATO secretary-general.

In Italy and Spain, reaction to the looming war clouds in the Caribbean has been muted to the point of silence.

Italian Defense Minister Cesare Previti, currently in the United States, was quoted as saying Italy had turned down a request to contribute police to keep order after an invasion.

Danish Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen said Denmark had been asked for help by Washington and was considering sending police or other assistance under UN auspices after the intervention, possibly as part of a Nordic force.

In an effort to involve as many countries as possible, Washington has gone as far as fielding India, Bangladesh, Israel and Finland in search of contributions.

But Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin suggested on Wednesday that Israel may have to reconsider its promise to the United States to send a police unit.

Asked about the risk of Israelis losing their lives, he told Israel Radio: "We will have to study the situation at its essence and see whether we can send our volunteers or whether the thing will be too problematic." (Reuters)

DNA tests: Simpson's blood present at murder site

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Final DNA test results show O.J. Simpson was the source of at least some of the blood drops leading from the bodies of his ex-wife and her friend, the *Los Angeles Times* said yesterday.

Tests of genetic material are still being conducted by two laboratories and some are inconclusive, but a batch of final results was forwarded to defense lawyers and prosecutors, the *Times* said.

The results point to a match between Simpson's blood and at least two of the blood drops found near the bodies of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, unidentified sources close to the case told the newspaper.

Lead defense attorney Robert Shapiro said the judge has directed lawyers not to discuss evidence.

Simpson, 47, has pleaded innocent to two counts of murder. Jury selection is to begin Sept. 26.

Simpson, a former football star, television sports commentator and pitcher, is the most famous American to be charged with murder in recent years.

As his lawyers continue the costly work, Simpson has begun liquidating more than half a million dollars in stock he acquired while serving on four corporate boards.

Simpson's defense is expected to cost between \$2 million and \$4 million, according to the *National Law Journal*. Papers from his 1992 divorce estimated his net worth at \$10 million, but much of that was tied up in real estate.

Simpson disclosed last week that he had sold \$270,000 of stock in Cyrix Inc., a maker of promotional T-shirts, caps and similar items, for a pretax profit of \$150,000.

Simpson disclosed the stock sale in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing. It was first reported Wednesday by *The Wall Street Journal*, which also said he made a profit of about \$170,000 selling stock in Forschner Group Inc., an importer of Swiss Army knives and kitchen cutlery.

Simpson's personal attorney, LeRoy Taft, didn't return calls inquiring about the stock sales and how the proceeds will be used.

Simpson resigned in July from the boards of Cyrix, Forschner and Infiniti Broadcast Corp. Also Wednesday, Simpson's lawyers moved to suppress more than 100 items of evidence seized from Simpson's home and cars in five different searches they claim were illegal.

British parties prepare nervously for conferences

GERRARD RAVEN
LONDON

BRITAIN'S three major political parties are preparing for their annual jaunts to the seaside — and they all have a nasty feeling that the tide may be going out.

It is the annual conference season when party grandees mix with grass roots supporters, and are often told home truths by those outside the cloistered atmosphere of Westminster.

Next week it is the turn of the minority Liberal Democrats, whose triumphs in local council elections in May are now a distant memory as they grapple with a new-look opposition Labor Party threatening to occupy their centrist ground.

On October 3, Labor itself meets, its hopes of a triumphant conference to greet new leader Tony Blair dented slightly by an opinion poll yesterday showing its huge lead over the ruling Conservatives has begun to fade.

The following week, Prime Minister John Major faces his restless Conservative troops after a year when his party, in power since 1979, has looked tired, short on ideas and accident-prone.

At the conferences of the two opposition parties, the question will be whether the momentum built up on the back of Conservative unpopularity can be sustained as the economy continues steady, non-inflationary growth.

The opinion poll in yesterday's *Guardian* newspaper suggested Labor, on 45 percent, would be only 12 points ahead of the Con-

servatives if a general election was called.

This is the narrowest lead in any poll since Blair became leader in July. "The sobering news for the Labor leader is that the honeymoon may be over," the *Guardian* newspaper commented.

The same poll put the Liberal Democrats on 18 percent, almost exactly the vote percentage they achieved at the 1992 general election when they won just 20 of the 651 seats in the House of Commons.

For the Liberal Democrats, the task next week in Brighton will be to convince sceptical voters that they are still in the fight despite Blair's movement of Labor to the centre ground.

The party was formed by a merger of the centrist Liberals and a Social Democrat party led by former ministers who resigned from Labor in the 1980s in protest at hard left policies.

Now that those Labor policies have been reversed, political commentators say the Liberal Democrats must convince voters it has a future as a distinct, separate party.

"The period of Lib Dem gains on the back of a discredited far left Labor Party is being supplanted by one of Lib Dem consolidation on the back of a centrist Labor Party," sympathetic *Guardian* columnist Hugo Young wrote yesterday.

"We are going to have to keep raising our game," outgoing party president Charles Kennedy admitted recently. (Reuters)

Rare Lennon recording fetches \$122,000

LONDON (Reuters) — A unique recording by John Lennon on the day he met Paul McCartney was sold at auction yesterday to the Beatles' record company for £78,500 (\$122,900).

"That's a good price for a slice of history," David Hughes of EMI Records said after buying the scratchy five-minute recording that had lain in a bank vault for more than 30 years.

Beatlemania still reigned supreme 30 years after the group's heyday as a private collector paid £52,100 (\$81,520) for the drums-kin portrayed on the cover of their album "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band".

But the star of the auction was the Lennon recording.

"It is the very first and earliest known recording of John Lennon that has been found and also was recorded on the day John met Paul. That partnership was to change the course of rock and roll," said Sotheby's pop expert Steven Maycock.

The recording of the Quarrymen, a group led by 16-year-old John Lennon, was made on July 6, 1957 at a church fete in the

northern English city of Liverpool, birthplace of the Beatles who changed the face of pop music.

The recording was made on a bulky Grundig reel-to-reel portable by Bob Molyneux, now a 53-year-old retired policeman.

After a brief snatch of the grainy recording of Lennon's unmistakable rasp echoed round Sotheby's ornate auction room, he confessed: "It still gives me goose pimples after 37 years."

Lennon, who was shot dead by a crazed fan in New York in 1980, is heard singing Elvis Presley's "Baby Let's Play House" and the British skiffle number one "Puttin' on the Style" by Lonnie Donegan.

Molyneux said he was thrilled to hear that the recording might now reach a much wider audience. "I am delighted it is going to be appreciated," he said when told of the EMI purchase.

In true pop fable tradition, it was a dark and stormy night when Lennon first met McCartney, a chubby-faced 15-year-old who came along to hear the Quarrymen.

Space shuttle laser-maps typhoon in Pacific

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — The US Space Shuttle Discovery's cloud-mapping laser scanned the eye of Typhoon Melissa from high above the Pacific Ocean yesterday to give atmospheric scientists a detailed profile of the churning storm.

Despite a troublesome data recorder, scientists operating the \$25 million laser from Johnson Space Center are giving it rave reviews for providing unprecedented data on global climate.

"The instrument is actually operating flawlessly, beyond expectation. We can't be happier," said project scientist Pat McCormick.

The green-hued laser light, emitted in three frequencies, is being bounced in split-second pulses off clouds, atmospheric pollutants and the Earth's surface and back to Discovery. An on-board telescope collects the reflections for researchers to evaluate.

The shuttle is flying as far north as Moscow and as far south as Cape Horn to cover as much of the atmosphere as possible.

This is the first time a laser has been used from space for atmospheric research, although such technology has been used from aircraft and the ground for decades. Scientists hope to orbit the devices eventually on satellites.

Since Friday's shuttle launch, the laser has scanned cloud formations, urban smog, dust storms in the Sahara Desert and smoke from burning forests in South America and Africa.

Typhoon Melissa has gathered intensity in the central Pacific. Laser readings as Discovery passed 260 kms overhead should yield data on cloud height and density, temperatures at various cloud levels and information on cloud particles.

Also yesterday, Discovery closed in on a sun-watching satellite named Spartan for a late-afternoon retrieval. The shuttle has trailed Spartan since astronauts released it Tuesday.

Shuttle commander Richard Richards was faced with the possibility of a rendezvous without Discovery's radar, which failed to lock on to the satellite during Tuesday's deployment. Hale said the radar exhibited a similar problem before the flight, but technicians' repairs seem to have failed.

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Application forms are available from:
Mrs. Annemarie Oline,
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87-91 Elstree Road,
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Completed forms should be returned by no later than October 15, 1994, marked for the attention of Chairman of Governors, at the above address.

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- And the "law report": Asher Felix Landau's unique review of court cases in the news.

ON TUESDAYS:

- The Arts and Entertainment pages feature Dora Sowden's internationally acclaimed dance reviews; Naomi Doudai's drama critiques; concert roundups by Benjamin Bar-Am and Ury Eppstein; Tower Records' Top 15; new audio releases by Tizah Agassi.

ON WEDNESDAYS:

- The Middle East page, brings you an Arab news digest, articles on and by Israel's neighbors.

ON THURSDAYS:

- The *The Post's* "agony aunt" Ruth Blum answers readers' questions.
- Intelligence experts Uri Dan and Dennis Eisenberg give you inside stories of international intrigue.

92 gave birth, 80 fainted on quiet Yom Kippur

RAINE MARCUS and Itim

OVER 100 children were injured in bicycle and skateboard accidents and some 80 persons fainted during a Yom Kippur fast that was otherwise mostly uneventful.

The streets of Jerusalem were filled during Wednesday night and yesterday with people on their way to pray at synagogues and at the Western Wall.

The traditional quiet in the capital was preserved, with few cars passing through the streets. Police said beefed-up forces secured the paths leading to the Western Wall and the plaza itself.

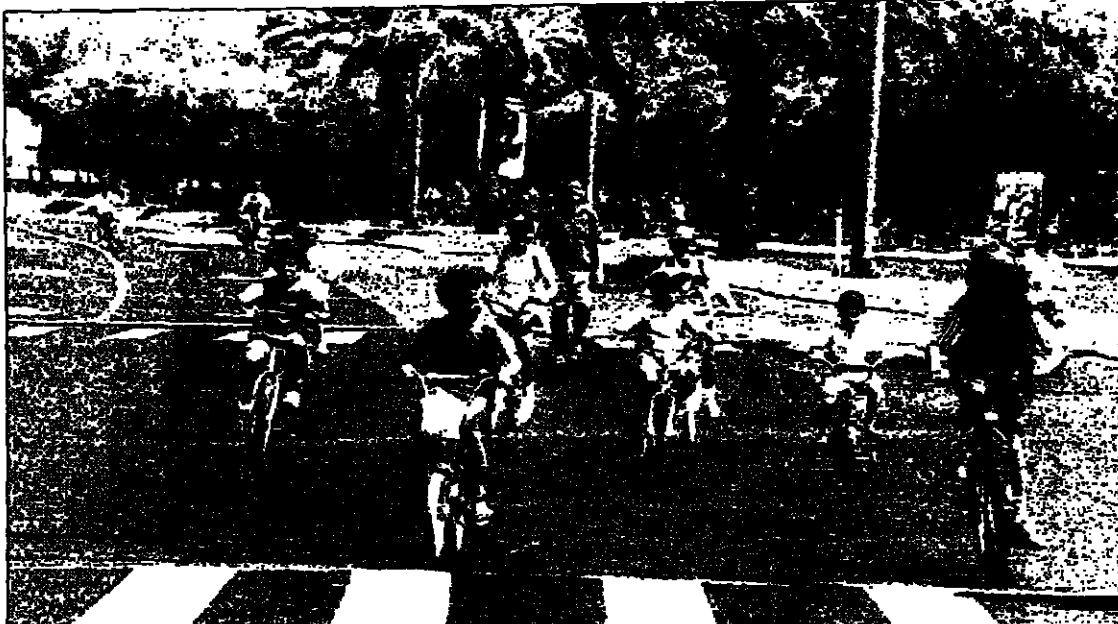
Children turned out in droves to bicycle on deserted streets throughout the country, despite calls to parents to keep their children at home out of respect for the holiday.

Magen David Adom personnel responded to 2,029 calls over Yom Kippur. Doctors treated 99 people at first aid stations, while another 1,257 people were brought by ambulance to hospitals.

Ninety-two women gave birth to Yom Kippur babies, four of whom were delivered at home or in ambulances on the way to the hospital.

In Ashdod, a fight broke out in a synagogue at about 3 p.m. yesterday after a 50-year-old man demanded that another worshiper get out of his seat. The two exchanged punches and the prayers were halted. Other worshippers intervened and found seats for the two far away from each other.

Magen David Adom also re-



Yom Kippur's quiet streets yesterday offer a once-a-year opportunity for young bicyclists. (Israel Sun)

ported nine cases of stone-throwing at ambulances by groups of youths and children, but the spokesman stressed that the stones were hurled in secular neighborhoods.

In one road accident in the capital, a 14-year-old girl crossing Re-

hov Emek Refaim suffered moderate injuries in a hit and run accident.

At the Kfar Shmaryahu junction a group of youths smashed traffic lights and control boxes, police said.

The youths then went on to hurl

stones and eggs at cars which occasionally passed by. One driver was slightly injured when a stone smashed the windshield of her car. Police arrested a 15-year-old youth in connection with the incident. He was later released on bail.

Families to go ahead with suit over 1972 Olympic massacre

MUNICH (Reuters) - Relatives of the Israeli athletes killed at the 1972 Munich Olympics plan to sue Germany next week for \$26 million in belated damages, their lawyers said on Wednesday.

Palestinian gunmen broke into the Israeli team quarters during the Olympics, killing two Israelis and taking nine hostages. Police mounted a rescue attempt at Fuerstendbruck airport, but all nine captives died in a shootout along with five Palestinians and a policeman.

Munich attorney Christoph Rueckel, whose office is representing the families, accused police and government officials of bungling a planned rescue mission that ended with the deaths of all hostages and kidnappers.

Rueckel said the suit would be filed next week in Munich court unless the German government and the state of Bavaria agreed to an out-of-court settlement.

"This is not a matter of making money, this is a question of finding a reasonable and honorable solution," Rueckel told reporters at a joint news conference with the Israeli attorney for the plaintiffs, Pinchas Zeltzer from Tel Aviv.

The Bavarian government in Munich, which under German federalism bears the bulk of responsibility for the case, has already rejected the claims that Rueckel first raised in an August letter demanding an out-of-court deal.

The German government in Bonn had no comment until a suit is formally filed, a spokesman for the interior ministry said. Bavaria maintains the athletes were killed by their captors, not by stray police bullets, and that any claim has elapsed.

Germany paid the surviving athletes a total of about \$1 million at the time.

Rueckel said some German documents on the case were only made available in 1992.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Seven hurt as plane's brakes fail on landing

Seven people were injured on Wednesday when the brakes of a light airplane malfunctioned while landing at Haifa Airport.

The plane landed on the airstrip but then failed to stop, crashing through a security fence and rolling onto a road. It then hit a parked vehicle, moderately injuring its driver. Five passengers in the plane and the pilot suffered light injuries.

Itim

Two sailors found safe and sound

Two 21-year-old men who were reported missing Tuesday afternoon after setting off on a sailboat from Herzliya's coast returned to shore safely the same night. They had had trouble navigating in the choppy waters, but eventually regained control of the craft and arrived back at Sidna Ali Beach. The Coast Guard and the navy had searched for the two for about four hours along the coast north and south of Herzliya.

Itim

Tourism info offered during holidays

The Tourism Ministry has begun to operate an information line with recorded messages in English and Hebrew detailing the festivals and events taking place throughout the country during the Succot holiday. The line is part of the ministry's "Year of Peace and Tourism" campaign and will operate until the end of the month. The number is (03) 5655055.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, ace of hearts, jack of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

New OC for medical corps

Jerusalem Post Staff

COL. Yehoshua Shemer is to be appointed OC Medical Corps today, replacing Brig.-Gen. Michael Wiener, who is retiring from the IDF. Upon his appointment Shemer will be promoted to brigadier-general.

Shemer, 47, the deputy chief medical officer, was last year loaned to the Health Ministry, which he served as deputy director-general.

After being drafted into the academic reserves in 1966, Shemer began active service in 1973, serving in a number of positions from battalion medical officer to divisional medical officer.

Phony guard arrested

A Tel Aviv man has been arrested on suspicion of posing as a security guard for Prime Minister Rabin and entering IDF headquarters in Tel Aviv. He was released for 15 days on Wednesday.

Police said Mordechai Gonen, 28, entered the army compound by presenting a phony ID showing him as a GSS employee. (Itim)

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Police detain parents after toddler burns to death in Jerusalem

BILL HUTMAN

A TWO-YEAR-OLD boy was burned to death in Jerusalem on Wednesday, and the toddler's father, mother, and grandfather were arrested, the police spokesman said.

The father, 31, from Beit Hanina, brought the boy to Hadassah University Hospital at Ein Kerem on Wednesday afternoon. He said he found his son with burns all over his body in the family's bath when he returned home.

The father said he had left his son asleep alone in the house.

The mother also said she was out at the time of the incident with the family's two other children.

Police investigators said there were clear signs the boy had been set alight deliberately and had not burned himself while playing. "The baby's body smelled of gasoline," the spokesman said. A police source noted that the father has a history of psychiatric problems.

The child's body was sent for autopsy to the forensic institute at Abu Kabir.



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03-5262255 between 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Sunday-Thursday).

Notice to Tourists Planning to Go Through Taba Frontier Post

A large number of travelers are expected at the Taba Frontier Post during Succot, which will put pressure on the facilities. Drivers who do not wish to cross the frontier and go into Sinai are asked not to go into the vicinity of the Taba frontier post.

A police barrier will be set up near the underwater observation facility, in order to control traffic going to Egypt, the intention being to avoid traffic jams on the coast road.

A fee is charged for entering Egypt through the Taba frontier post. This can be paid at the frontier post, or at the following branches of the Post Office bank.

- Tel Aviv: Mikve Yisrael branch, 7 Mikve Yisrael
- Ben-Gurion Airport: Airport Post Office
- Jerusalem: Central branch, 23 Yafa
- Haifa: Shikmona branch, 19 Pal Yam
- Beersheba: Sd. Hanes'im branch, 9 Sd. Hanes'im
- Eilat: Canion Adom branch, Sd. Hatemarim

and the First International Bank branch in Eilat

For your convenience and to save time, pay in advance, and save waiting in a long queue.

You need a passport, the validity of which runs for at least another three months, and an exit permit from the IDF or an exemption certificate (an IDF permit cannot be obtained at the frontier post.)

For the information of those who wish to take a vehicle into Egypt:

- Only private cars may be taken in, and the car owner must be traveling with the car.
- It is desirable to have with you an English translation of the vehicle license (obtainable from all branches of MEMSI) and to have comprehensive insurance cover.
- Those leaving their vehicle in Israel are recommended to park the vehicle in a secure parking lot in Eilat (Egged depot, Shekem, etc.) and to travel to the frontier post by public transport.
- Parking is not allowed in the vicinity of the frontier post.
- The police will give instructions to tow away vehicles which are parked on the main road, south of the Princess Hotel.
- Commercial vehicles, vehicles with a diesel engine, 4x4 vehicles, hire cars, and trucks may not cross the frontier.

The Israel Airports Authority wishes travelers a joyous festival and a happy new year!

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